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HISTORIC NEW HARMONY'S HERITAGE ARTISANS WEEK APRIL 21-25

Learn New Harmony's history, enjoy unique shopping, steer the oxen and wagon, and watch artisan demonstrations

NEW HARMONY, IN (March 20, 2009) –Historic New Harmony's 24th annual Heritage Artisans Week is a five-day celebration of 19th century arts, crafts, and industry. The event will begin April 21, on the grounds of the Atheneum/Visitors Center in New Harmony, with the support of the West Side Nut Club of Evansville. This event offers something to please all ages and is perfect for entire families, clubs, groups or friends just getting together.

Heritage Artisans Week focuses on New Harmony's rich historical traditions, while featuring demonstrations by accomplished regional artisans in costume. Some of the returning demonstrations include spinning/ weaving, bookbinding, soap making, beekeeping, woodworking, rug making, and traditional Native American life and food.

Returning to Heritage Artisans Week again this year is Gerry Barker of Frontier Resources, who will bring his four oxen. There will be programs involving oxen which will include visitors. "The Wagoner's Lad" is a program that re-enacts how a wagon was driven two hundred years ago and Barker will request the help of a volunteer to assist. "Logging with Oxen" is a program that will allow volunteers to test their skills at collecting and transporting logs with the help of oxen.

Another returning demonstrator is Tom Wintczak of Wadesville, Ind., who will be showcasing his pottery. This past August, Tom was featured in the "Early American Life" magazine's 23rd annual Directory of Traditional American Craft for his handcrafted sgraffito and slip-trailed redware pottery.

For those looking for a unique shopping experience, Heritage Artisans Week offers items that have historical significance that also fit a modern lifestyle. This year the craft artisans will be selling the goods that are demonstrated on site. Rain or shine, craft demonstrations will take place Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the Atheneum/Visitors Center, located at the corner of North and Arthur Streets in New Harmony. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults; \$9 for seniors/AAA; \$5 for children 7-17 year of age; and children 6 and under are free of charge. Group discounts can be arranged in advance for any day throughout the week. Entire families, residing in the same household, can attend for a single price of \$25 or for \$20 with advanced reservations. Contact Jan Kahle at jkahle@usi.edu or 812-682-4488 for more information or registration.

About Historic New Harmony:

Historic New Harmony's mission is to preserve New Harmony's utopian legacy by inspiring renewal and fellowship between people and communities through its programs and collections. Historic New Harmony is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. For more information on Historic New Harmony, please visit www.newharmony.org.

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