On March 15 the Bicentennial House opened its doors to the public for the first time. Visitors were greeted by owners Kent and Laurie Parker, builder Ralph Glaser, and Historic New Harmony staff, Connie Weinzapfel and Melissa Williams. Informal tours were given and visitors enjoyed seeing the plans that have been in the works since 2012 come to fruition.

This open house event was a great success as it allowed visitors and townsfolk the opportunity to explore the home. Throughout the afternoon the nearly completed project had over 200 visitors.

The charitable project that produced the apps and website for New Harmony visitors began with a conversation in 2012 that grew into a project when not-for-profit organizations, private funders, and community volunteers—the Efroymson Family Fund of Indianapolis, Harmonie Associates, New Harmony Artist’s Guild, and anonymous local donors—got on board to create these new tech tools.

In 2013, professional designers, photographers, and writers assembled to build VisitNewHarmony mobile apps and the supporting website. The project was launched publicly at a March 15 event with 200 sky lanterns set off in the center of town as a celebration of the release of these new tools during the town’s Bicentennial year.

Loaded with striking professional photography, real-time navigation assistance, and one-click connections to businesses and attractions, VisitNewHarmony apps meet the

“By preserving its utopian legacy, Historic New Harmony inspires innovation and progressive thought through its programs and collections.”

—Historic New Harmony Mission Statement

Christa M. Thurman Sala received an honorary doctorate from University of Southern Indiana during commencement ceremonies on May 2. Celebrating her service to Historic New Harmony are (l to r) Dr. James Sanders, retired director of Historic New Harmony, Thurman friends Tracy Bousky, George Larson, Dr. Christa M. Thurman Sala, John Trout, HNH director Connie Weinzapfel, Lili Trout, and Tom Freeburg.
The Bicentennial of our beloved New Harmony is finally here and it seems we’ve been planning forever. In the introduction of the *Images of America—New Harmony* book, which was published for the millennium, I urged people to consider their role in utopia—to begin to prepare for their own contribution to the town when it reached its Bicentennial. And true to the spirit of this place, so many people have stepped up.

As happens, many early grand plans have fallen away, while other projects have taken on new life. I have so enjoyed getting to know many local folks in a new way, by working side-by-side with them and sharing their excitement for the many great resources this town offers.

Certainly the most enduring activity of the Bicentennial is the Legacy Time Capsule project. Historic New Harmony Advisory Board member and my friend Patricia Gosh has taken that on with zeal found only in true lovers of this place. Pat has attended every public activity throughout this year, from the Fire Department’s Sausage Supper to the “Under the Beams” concerts, to encourage people to write down their message for the future. The Time Capsule will be buried on the grounds of the Working Men’s Institute on December 6, to be opened again in 2114.

**NEW COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

Catherine Cotrupi joined the Historic New Harmony staff in January of this year as the community engagement manager. In this role she works to create and sustain partnerships between the town of New Harmony and the University of Southern Indiana through research, field work, site visits, internships, and other collaborative projects. Prior to accepting this position, she worked for Leadership Evansville as well as Freedom Indiana. Catherine received a master’s degree from Virginia Tech in 2011 in sociology and nonprofit management and leadership and then worked for that university as their first LGBTQ coordinator in the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services. Her passion is developing projects that engage campus and community life. Read more about her current projects in this issue.

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND EXCITING RECOGNITION**

New Harmony’s Bicentennial has occasioned special attention and opportunities for recognition to the town and our programs. Two new publications are in the works. Through collaboration with *Evansville Living* magazine and a photo contest they promoted over the winter, a new commemorative book was produced that is a snapshot of people’s favorite places and moments in New Harmony. This publication is being sold at the Atheneum and in New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art.

Thanks to the great idea by New Harmony patrons Dr. George and Peggy Rapp, the Indiana Historical Society’s *Traces* magazine will be all about New Harmony this summer. Featuring several established and new writers of the town’s history, the entire issue will be devoted to exploring various aspects of New Harmony. This special issue also will be for sale at the Atheneum and in the Basile History Market at the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis.


If you’re interested in our sister site, Old Economy Village, the team there is restoring the Rapp Houses. Curator Sarah Buffington writes about their progress and the discoveries they have made in the process in the blog: www.oldeconomyvillage.org/category/rapp_houses_restoration.

New Harmony will be getting a surge of notice in the media as well. An article by our community engagement manager was featured in the March/April edition of *Evansville Living*. In addition to local newspapers and broadcast media, writers from AAA Midwest, *Midwest Living*, and the *Chicago Tribune* travel section are planning special reports about the town. We expect much more interest as the year progresses, and know that we’ll attract many more visitors, and at least a few new residents to the utopia on the Wabash in 2014.
Comings and Goings: I am pleased to introduce Robin Bischof, our new assistant collections manager. Robin received a master's degree in museum studies from Baylor University and has most recently worked at the Sixth Floor Museum in Dallas, Texas. Her duties consist of overseeing the artifacts and exhibits, assisting researchers, and curating the 2015 Golden Troupe exhibit at Thrall’s Opera House. Welcome, Robin!

Heather Baldus, the former assistant collections manager, accepted a position in Virginia. We appreciate her numerous accomplishments, which included organizing two successful Golden Troupe exhibits, writing the disaster plan, and inventorying thousands of artifacts. We wish Heather and her dog Edward success in their endeavors!

Traces Magazine: Historic New Harmony director Connie Weinzapfel and I served as co-editors of the spring issue of Traces, a quarterly magazine published by the Indiana Historical Society. The entire edition focuses on New Harmony to commemorate the town's bicentennial.

Connie and I enjoyed selecting topics about New Harmony’s diverse history, although paring down the list to eight subjects proved to be difficult. How can you do New Harmony justice in 55 pages? We enlisted the help of our talented colleagues, who wrote fascinating articles about little-known facets of New Harmony’s history. Be sure to pick up the issue; I guarantee you will learn a new dimension about our utopia on the Wabash.

New Harmony mobile apps continued…

needs of a broad spectrum of users. Whether you’re tech-savvy, tech-challenged, or in-between, this new media delivers great benefits in addition to mobility: town events will download easily to personal calendars and the apps’ off-road GPS navigation takes you beyond the pavement to destinations like the town’s trailhead, great picnic sites, and the best sunset views by the river. VisitNewHarmony mobile apps deliver exactly what fans of the historic town of New Harmony have asked for: insider tips, easy-to-use planning information, and all-in-one tools for finding their way to top attractions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The goal of the community engagement manager is to create, sustain, and strengthen ties between the town of New Harmony and the University of Southern Indiana. By allowing each to benefit from the assets and resources of the other, both will flourish and succeed in their goals and missions.

The following is a breakdown of just a few of the many projects that Catherine Cotrupi is working on.

Historic New Harmony: Atheneum and USI International Programs and Services
Each year USI sends one student to New Lanark, Scotland, to serve as an intern during the summer. The community engagement manager is working with the director of International Programs and Services, Heidi Gregori-Gahan, and the Atheneum’s visitor services coordinator, Melissa Williams, to add supplemental activities to the intern’s required responsibilities. This year’s intern is Kathleen Sledge, one of the USI student interpreters at the Atheneum, and she will be required to complete 10 blog posts while abroad and to present her experiences at three separate campus and New Harmony events upon her return.

New Harmony and USI History and Sociology Departments
Professors are eager to get their classes out to New Harmony to engage with all we have to offer. One professor wants to tailor her “Reacting to the Past” program to New Harmony for the fall 2014 semester. In this program students are assigned a character from history, and participate in debates and write papers from this character’s perspective. We plan to have the final debate and audience Q&A take place in New Harmony.

Interfaith: Historic New Harmony and USI Religious Life
This fall, the three-year-old Interfaith Internship will have the intern spend one day a week in New Harmony and will increase the visibility of interfaith history in New Harmony. This intern also will help with the planning of the annual Interfaith Retreat for USI students held in the Barn Abbey and supported by the Robert Lee Blaffer Foundation.

Historic New Harmony and USI Outreach and Engagement Reservable Spaces Tour:
Catherine Cotrupi, community engagement manager, and Mike Szakaly, USI’s resource manager in Outreach and Engagement, are working together on a project to bring more visibility to the reservable spaces in New Harmony. They are reaching out to Evansville businesses and inviting human resource and training professionals to New Harmony to tour 22 reservable spaces in town. The program includes a bus from USI to New Harmony and back, the 22-stop tour, and a 45-minute professional development session over lunch. The New Harmony Business Associates are welcoming the group to town at breakfast and are sponsoring the event with tote-bags full of New Harmony goodies.

Super Summer: This year there will be a special bonus for some of the USI Super Summer attendees. There will be a New Harmony track during the weeklong summer program for 6th-9th graders entitled ‘Bugs, Beakers, and Eyeballs: 200 Years of New Harmony Science.’

Evansville Day School Intersession
Fourteen Evansville Day School students came to New Harmony for their Intersession in March. Their activities included a historic walking tour, a tour of the archives at the Working Men’s Institute, a golf cart scavenger hunt, a nature walk and labyrinth walks with interpreters, and community service at Maple Hill Cemetery.
This year, the Under the Beams Concert Series kicked off its 2014 season in February in its new venue—USI’s Murphy Auditorium in New Harmony—with a ‘Centennial Concert’ featuring Pokey LaFarge and his band. This season of musical celebration, commemorating New Harmony’s Bicentennial, presents three high-energy performances now and will then align with the school year in the fall to begin the 2015 season.

Pokey LaFarge is a musician, songwriter, band leader, entertainer, innovator, and preservationist, whose well-rounded arsenal of talents has placed him at the forefront of American music. Over the last decade, Pokey has won the hearts of music lovers across the globe with his creative mix of early jazz, string ragtime, country blues, and western swing. His music transcends the confines of genre and cleverly strides between numerous forms of traditional American music. This concert of centennial spirited music in New Harmony’s ‘centennial’ hall, Murphy Auditorium, was a perfect kickoff for Under the Beams and to celebrate the town’s 200th anniversary.

The second performance featured The Jeremy Kittel Band on Saturday, April 5, with an unusual mix of mandolin, cello, and hammered dulcimer along with Jeremy’s violin. These award-winning musicians presented an exciting mix of alternate styles steeped in tradition and presented with world-class technical mastery, earning an enthusiastic standing ovation at the end of the evening’s show.

The final concert on Friday, May 23, a double-billed performance, will feature New Harmony’s favorite sons and daughters who have moved on to the larger musical stage. The evening’s concert will include Swan Dive with Molly Felder, Bill DeMain, and Mickey Grimm, followed by The David Tanner Band, all from Nashville, Tennessee. Swan Dive has had three Top-10 hits in Japan and Korea and are well known and loved in those countries. The David Tanner Band brings some of the best musicians from Nashville to the Under the Beams stage for some ‘Honky-Tonk-A-Rama’ fun!

This concert also coordinates with New Harmony High School’s Alumni weekend and offers the opportunity for former students of the now-closed New Harmony School to spend an evening in their well-loved Murphy Auditorium. The historic and beautifully restored Murphy Auditorium was built for New Harmony’s 1914 Centennial Celebration and offers a striking hall to spotlight the continuing eclectic mix of musical performances that Under the Beams has brought to New Harmony for the past 13 years. Murphy Auditorium also houses USI’s Summer Theatre program.

Chase also worked to realize an idea for the Bicentennial that originated with New Harmony citizen Lora Arneberg. Working with the Blair Collection at USI’s Special Collections and Archives, Chase found historic pictures of most of the downtown storefronts and wrote information about the particular building and business. These can be found in the windows of today’s businesses now.

The USI Intern, Daniel Chase Ziegler, during this spring semester. Beginning in January, Chase conducted preliminary research into preparations made for New Harmony’s 1914 Centennial. By looking at Working Men’s Institute’s microfiche of newspaper reports, Chase was able to summarize the people and events involved from the very early accounts in 1913.

A breakthrough came for all of us the day Chase opened a file folder that contained a letter that was written with the word “IMPORTANT.” It described a chest that contained all of the records and mementos from the Centennial. To our surprise and delight, we found the chest in the archives and in it we found the complete minutes from the Centennial Commission, along with souvenirs, correspondence, and newspaper coverage. His thorough work made writing an article about the Centennial for Traces magazine much easier.

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Under the Beams appreciates the opportunity to work with USI/Historic New Harmony and to provide free tickets for USI students to the 2014 concerts. To learn more about Under the Beams, or order tickets, visit www.underthebeams.org.
ATHENEUM UPDATE AND VISITORS SERVICES

The Atheneum staff spent March 1 training for the 2014 Bicentennial tour season. Linda Warrum was the first interpreter to open the tours on March 15. The daily historic tours begin at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Don’t miss out on the new sites that have been added. All New Harmony residents, USI students, faculty, and staff are admitted free with appropriate ID. Call visitor services coordinator, MeLissa Williams, at 812.682.4474 for more information and special group and field trip pricing.

The interpreters and sales staff are a great mix of locals and USI students. These students are getting excellent on-the-job training, as they are the ones making the sales, serving as information specialists, and leading the tours to diverse and varied groups each day. The current students’ majors are Elementary Education, Pre-Med, Occupational Therapy, Business-Human Resources, Communications-Event Planning, Public Relations, International Studies, and History-Museum Studies.

Update: Heritage Artisans Days was April 23–25 and we had a large and enthusiastic crowd of over 2,700 people. The volunteer shifts were filled by USI students, interpreters, local residents, and interested individuals.

Chairman’s Corner

By Scott Wylie

Two hundred years is a very long time to sustain any effort, especially one that has often depended upon the patronage of others. That number, along with the word “bicentennial,” has been used liberally in recent months in anticipation of New Harmony’s birthday. Both will be thrown around regularly in the coming years as other areas of the Tri-state share that milestone—the State of Indiana and Carmi in 2016, the State of Illinois in 2018, etc. What fascinates me about these milestones is the fact that New Harmony has always been an outlier, a standout from the typical place. Reflecting over the two centuries, it is clear that this special place, this intentional attempt at perfected community, has unique lessons to teach us even today.

While many places celebrating such a birthday would look backwards (and we are doing our share of that too), New Harmony is looking forward, re-interpreting the meaning of community for yet another century of utopian dreamers. Take a look at the Bicentennial House, our upcoming lectures, and our special programming this summer. We don’t look 200 at all! Speaking of 200, I think that sounds like a perfect number of dollars for a gift.

Pictured in front of the 1830 Owen House are the Atheneum Staff: Seth Wolf, Sarah Reutepholer, Rachael Peyton, Marlene Huffaker, Kenyon Bailey, MeLissa Williams, Kathleen Sledge, Maxine Watson, Mary Griggs, Terri Axton, Noah McCutchan, Kim Key, Tracy Gholson, Aja Blair, Rachel Schum. Missing from the picture are: Jan Kahle, Becky Smyth, Linda Warrum, and Jordyn Kern.
GALLERY UPDATE AND EAMES DEMETRIOS

The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art will host “Displacement part two: Of Internal Affairs” from April 19 to May 30. The collaboration between the University of Louisville’s Hite Institute, Spaulding University’s Huff Gallery, and University of Southern Indiana’s New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art features the curatorial skills of Stacey Reason. The exhibition is Reason’s thesis project for the Hite Institute’s combined M.A./M.P.A of Curatorial Studies and Nonprofit Management with components at both the Huff Gallery and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art. For this endeavor, Reason utilizes the concept of displacement as unifying context for the selected works and spaces represented in this project. Works in the exhibition represent a wide range of materials and methodologies realized by a diverse spectrum of artists. Ranging from student to professional, Reason’s selection includes a good sample of Midwestern artists, but also draws work from as far away as Russia. A closing reception will be held Friday, May 30 from 5–7 p.m. For more information, visit www.staceyreason.com/displacement.html.

Hollie Chastain is an artist from Chattanooga, Tennessee. Her collage work will be in the gallery from June 7 to July 18. In addition to collage and digital prints, Chastain’s work can be found on book and cd covers. Recently, Chastain was included in the Jealous Curator’s book Creative Block. Chastain exhibits internationally and her work can be found in boutiques across the nation. A closing reception will be held Saturday, July 19 from 4–6 p.m. For more information, visit www.holliechastain.com.

The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art and the Efroymson Family Fund will bring a glimpse of a parallel universe to Southwest Indiana in August 2014. Eames Demetrios will be working in New Harmony to construct a “historic site” as part of his Kcymaerxthaere project. The gallery will feature works by members of previously participating communities, created in response to his storytelling presentations. Additionally, the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana is providing support for an outreach art program that will involve students from Vanderburgh and Posey Counties.

An internationally recognized professional speaker and principal of the Eames Office, Demetrios curates the “Design, Architecture and Sustainability Film Fest”, and is geographer at large in his ongoing international project, Kcymaerxthaere. It is a global storytelling project that creates a parallel universe through the creation of historical plaques and sites. The project will be an extension of his current body of work currently in 22 countries around the world. The specific scope for his project in New Harmony will include an art exhibition, permanent art installation near the Atheneum, and community outreach in area K-12 schools to produce “Disputed Likenesses” to be included in the exhibition. The piece will be celebrated on August 2, during the Bicentennial Capstone Week and a reception for the exhibition will be held during the Gallery Stroll on August 23 from 4–7 p.m. For more information, visit www.kcymaerxthaere.com.

If you have not been in lately, now is the time to check out the new work in the gallery shop. There are great gifts for friends and family, or be inspired to give your own space a new look with fresh offerings from talented regional artists.
MAKE A GIFT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Your gift to Historic New Harmony will fund the preservation of historic properties in New Harmony as well as educational and artistic programming focused on creating the utopian experience. Visit USI.edu/onlinegiving or call 812-461-5473 to make your gift today.

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

Executive editor Connie Weinzapfel; staff contributors: Amanda Bryden, Garry Holstein, Catherine Cotrupi, Christine Crews.

Historic New Harmony is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. Programming details are available at www.usi.edu/hnh.

WWW.USI.EDU/HNH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 2014

JUNE
7–July 18 Hollie Chastain NHGCA
8–14 New Harmony Writer’s Workshop
JUNE 9–13 USI Super Summer for Kids—Bugs, Beakers and Eyeballs: 200 Years of New Harmony Science
14 Golden Raintree Antiques Show

JULY
4 Traditional Fourth of July Celebration, 10 a.m., Atheneum
6–13 New Harmony Music Festival & School
6–Sept. 26 Kcymaexthaere – Eames Demetrios NHGCA

AUGUST
New Harmony Bicentennial
Capstone Week Events
August 1–10, 2014 www.newharmony-in.gov
1–3 Keck-Connerman Antique Farm Show
2 Eames Demetrios Sculpture Unveiling at Atheneum
Drive Up New Harmony Movie Night at Atheneum
2–9 Bicentennial House Tours

SEPTEMBER
20–21 Kunstfest

For information regarding these and many other events, visit www.usi.edu/hnh.