



Historic New Harmony

In Harmony Newsletter

JULY 2022 Edition

Interim Assistant Director's Update

July brings both joy and sadness when it comes to the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board. It means welcoming new excited supporters, but also saying goodbye to some fantastic members. [Read more about the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board](#)

Atheneum Maintenance Update

Work on the Atheneum roof started this week! As work continues, the entire roof, second and third floors will be closed off to the public, including the Clowes Theater and the 1824 town model. [Learn more about the work being completed](#)

ISMHS Update

On June 4, the Indiana State Museum hosted a beekeeping class in Community House No. 2 titled "Beekeeping 101." [Hear from Jess as she shares more about the program](#)

Second Saturday Programming Continues

This year seems to be flying by! We're now halfway through the year (and our New Harmony Second Saturday programming). As our first year participating in Second Saturday, we've worked hard on developing a new and exciting program each month. [Learn more about upcoming Second Saturdays](#)

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Interim Assistant Director's Update

Excitement is building in the HNH Office regarding our Lilly Religion and Cultural Institution Initiative planning grant. The survey is completed, results are being studied, site visits are being made and the possibilities seem endless. [Read more about the planning grant process](#)



Historic New Harmony

Assistant Director's Update

JULY 2022

Claire Eagle, Interim Assistant Director

July is bittersweet for the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board. It means welcoming new excited supporters, but also saying goodbye to some fantastic members. Led by Chair Katie Waters, the Advisory Board has been extremely active the past year. From a very successful annual campaign, under the direction of Vice Chair Development Melodee Dubois, to hosting USI international students in New Harmony for Easter, members fulfilled the mission of the organization by supporting Historic New Harmony's preservation and educational endeavors.

In June, we capped off the 2021-2022 Advisory Board year with the return of the Summer Hat Luncheon. Led by Vice Chair Special Events Lora Arneberg, it was a great success. We thank all those Advisory Board members and sponsors who made the event possible, including The Mews-Annette Buckland, Capers Emporium, The Kent and Laurie Parker Foundation and the New Harmony Soap Company.

As we think about the successes of the last year, we wish to thank the following for their service to the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board:

David Campbell

Bill Elliott

John Grizzell

Jeff Halwes

Charmaine McDowell

Mike Strezewski

Linda Warrum



Now we look with excitement to what might come in the next year. We welcome the following to the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board:

Vicki Campbell

Heidi Doss

Mark Krahlung

Josef Laposa

Richard McCoy

John Rapp

Stella Ress

Aaron Trump

Kevin Valadares

If you would like to learn more about the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board, please visit [USI.edu/HNHadvisoryboard](https://usi.edu/HNHadvisoryboard).

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Claire Eagle, Interim Assistant Director

Excitement is building in the HNH Office regarding our [Lilly Religion and Cultural Institution Initiative planning grant](#). The survey is completed, results are being studied, site visits are being made and the possibilities seem endless.

In the last few weeks, Leslie and I have completed two of our four site visits. The first was to [Old Economy Village](#) in Ambridge, Pennsylvania and [Historic Harmony](#) in Harmony, Pennsylvania. While these sites have not received this grant from Lilly previously, we thought that as the other two communities built by the Harmonists, they warranted a visit as we look at how we can better interpret religion in our exhibitions and programming. Especially because Old Economy Village holds the majority of Harmonists artifacts and all of their written records. A first visit for both of us, we were amazed by the differences in each site. From the architecture and collections to how each site is managed differently; Old Economy Village is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission while Historic Harmony is privately managed. We greatly enjoyed visiting with our colleagues at these sites and returned with a deeper understanding of the Harmony Society.

Our second visit was to [Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill](#) in Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Shaker Village previously received funds from the Lilly Endowment Inc. that worked to restore some of their religiously significant properties and complete an exhibition focusing on the religious beliefs of their Society. Additionally, this site is the most like Historic New Harmony that has received funds under this initiative. The beauty of Shaker Village was awe-inspiring, much like New Harmony is to new visitors. We spent a day with President and CEO Maynard Crossland and Vice President of Public Programming and Marketing Billy Rankin, while they showed us the site and shared their experience with the initiative. They were so helpful and eager to help us in any way they could, and we are so thankful for their hospitality.





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Second Saturday Programming Continues

Paul Goodman, Experience Coordinator

This year seems to be flying by! We're now halfway through the year (and our New Harmony Second Saturday programming). As our first year participating in Second Saturday, we've worked hard on developing a new and exciting program each month.

Beginning in March, we hosted a special Women's History tour focusing on the powerful and wonderful women who shaped New Harmony. Then, in April, we opened up the Maximilian-Bodmer Exhibition in the Lichtenberger Building for the afternoon so all could come and see it without going on tour. In May, we hosted a sold-out weaving workshop with local heritage artisan Peggy Taylor, where guests learned how to weave using historic methods just like the Harmonists. Our most recent Second Saturday program was a conversation with The Frontier Scientist, Thomas Say. He talked about his life and his expedition into the frontier to study and analyze nature.

These exciting programs are not over yet! On August 13, we will open up the Maximilian-Bodmer Exhibition once again from 1 to 4 p.m. In September, we will host another workshop with Peggy Taylor, but this time it will be all about natural dyeing, using plants from our recreated Harmonist Dye Garden at the David Lenz House. Be on the lookout in October, as there will be some haunting things happening that Second Saturday. Then for our final second Saturday of the year, we will be doing an open-hearth cooking demonstration in the Double Log Cabin, so come on by and see what's cooking!



Be sure and follow us on Facebook for all Second Saturday programming updates. For all those who joined us for any of the past events, we thank you. We hope to see you again soon!

Atheneum Maintenance Update

Paul Goodman, Experience Coordinator



Work on the Atheneum roof started this week! As work continues, the entire roof, second and third floors will be closed off to the public, including the Clowes Theater and the 1824 town model. Crews will be replacing the tile on the top of the roof after repairing the drains. They will also be repairing water damage that has occurred on some inner walls and ceilings. Tours will still begin at the Atheneum, but the introductory film will be viewed in the Atrium, which was generously funded by the Kent and Laurie Parker Family Foundation. The construction will last a few months but once completed, the repairs will go a long way in the continued preservation of this icon of modern architecture.

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The Atheneum

Paul Goodman, Experience Coordinator

In March I was contacted by a group of students from Xi'an University of Architecture and Technology in Xi'an, China. Their professor wanted them to have a deeper understanding of famous architects and their buildings. This particular group of students decided to study the Atheneum because, in their words, "it had great culture and was a masterpiece of Richard Meier (we admire him a lot)."



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New Harmony State Historic Site Update

JULY 2022

Jess McPherson, New Harmony State Historic Site Coordinator

On June 4, the Indiana State Museum hosted a beekeeping class in Community House No. 2 titled "Beekeeping 101." This was the first program I oversaw from start to finish as the New Harmony Site Coordinator. It was definitely a learning experience, but I am very happy with how the class turned out. It was taught by fourth-generation beekeeper, Kelsey Gerhardt, who is from Evansville and has a strong working relationship with the State Museum. We had seven people attend the class in total and each participant was given informational handouts and a sample of Kelsey's home-grown honey. Along with her honey sticks, Kelsey brought along an "observation hive" (a single frame of a hive with glass on both sides) so we could observe the honeybees in their home. She also had a variety of models and tools for reference as she taught the class.

The class was incredibly informative and useful for our patrons looking to start their own hives. I'm happy to have the experience of coordinating the program under my belt for our next class, "Weaving Through Time." This class will not only teach participants about Harmonist culture and industry, as well as make their own weaving project to take home with them! This class will be taught by a New Harmony local, Peggy Taylor, who is an expert historical weaver. Spots are still available so register soon!



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Jess McPherson, New Harmony State Historic Site Coordinator