

→ THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF ARROW ROCK, INC. ←

# HISTORIC ARROW ROCK™

*Vol. 36*

*No. 3*

*Fall/Winter  
2016*

→ *Bingham Film Earns Rave Reviews*

→ *Jeffris Preservation Project  
Nears Completion*

+ *Brick by Brick: Put Your Name  
On Our Next Project*

# A Year Of Accomplishments

The Friends of Arrow Rock have had a very good year in 2016. Our new Executive Director, Sandy Selby, got off to an immediate good start when she began work on Jan. 1. The Friends' office and shop is now open every day of the year except major holidays, with the assistance of the Operations Director Mandy Dorrance, and the three Historical Interpreters: Elaine Breshears, Bob Dewitt and Roger Peecher.

The number of tours and visits to the office and shop have held steady or exceeded previous years, and the sales in the shop

have broken all previous records by more than double. Please plan to do your Christmas shopping at the Friends' shop, which will be well stocked with unique gifts. (And take advantage of the 20 percent discount you're entitled to as a member of this organization.)



*Thomas B. Hall III*  
President  
Friends of Arrow Rock

The Jeffris Preservation Project to complete restorations of three of the Friends' most important historic buildings is on schedule and on budget. The debut in Arrow Rock in October of the Friends' first documentary film, "The American Artist: The Life and Times of George Caleb Bingham" was a great success, and sales of the DVD of the film are already bringing in revenue, besides spreading the name of Bingham and Arrow Rock nationwide.

Successful fundraising events such as the Sip & Stroll homes tour in Arrow Rock, the Bingham film debut, and the




*Rico Palacio of Pishny Restoration Services removes the uneven brick sidewalk in front of the Odd Fellows Lodge to prepare for a safer, level walk.*

Christmas party on Dec. 4 are both enjoyable and profitable, thanks to co-chairs Toni Blackwood and Karen Miller and the entire Fundraising Events committee.

The year closed with the announcement of a major bequest to the Friends'

endowment from the estate of the late William Huston, and the first annual distribution from the John Irvin Foundation of Chillicothe, Missouri, designated for maintenance of the Friends' buildings and special programs.

All in all, 2016 was another very successful year for the Friends of Arrow Rock. With strong support from the trustees, members, donors and visitors, the Friends have been more successful than ever in our missions of historic preservation and history education. If you have not renewed your membership or made a gift to the Friends this year, please consider doing so to ensure the continuing preservation and restoration of Arrow Rock, "the most historic spot in Missouri." 

**Thank you for your generous support.**

## Honor The Past, Embrace The Future

**A**nyone who has run a business knows that if your business is standing still, it is falling behind. But for an organization like Friends of Arrow Rock, where we take such pride in our rich traditions and history, it's important to find the proper balance between time-honored customs and bold innovation. At times I feel like the forward-thinking individuals who founded this organization are whispering in my ear, telling me what is sacred and what we should look to change. I want nothing more than to respect their legacy and grow the organization they started.

It has been an exciting challenge for me to lead this organization and I've been blessed that during my first year as executive



*Sandy Selby*  
Executive Director  
Friends of Arrow Rock

director, two major projects have come to fruition: the Jeffris Preservation Project and the George Caleb Bingham biopic, "*The American Artist*." I can't take credit for these projects; the groundwork was laid by our board of trustees and staff long before I became executive director. I'm thankful for my good timing and have relished the opportunity to watch the daily progress

on the Jeffris Project and to attend the screenings of the Bingham film.

We've accomplished other things this year, too. We expanded our museum shop and through our interactions with visitors who dropped in to shop, we shared the Arrow Rock story and recruited several new members to our organization. We added a night-time walking tour in October that far exceeded our expectations and inspired us to repeat that offering next October and add more specialty tours to our repertoire in 2017. We brought in a curriculum consultant to help us align our children's programs with Missouri's educational standards, to

make those programs even more attractive and helpful for the teachers who bring their classes to Arrow Rock in the spring.

Nothing would be easier than to let the organization take a break in 2017 after all it has accomplished this year, but that's not how our founders operated. They'd tell us to take that momentum and build on it, and that's exactly what we're going to do. Three of our buildings got some meticulous attention this year (See the Jeffris Project update on Page 4), but there are nine others that need our vigilant care. We plan to roll out a new program focused on Famous Missourians for our spring field trips, and we will develop an Arrow Rock-In-A-Box program that will take our village to the classroom when those children can't make the trip to our village. We'll continue to create memorable, personal experiences for our visitors through the tours led by our skilled interpreters, and we'll also explore ways to use today's technology to tell yesterday's stories.

If we honor what has come before and take brave steps into the future, we can make Friends of Arrow Rock the standard-bearer for historic preservation and education organizations across the country. This organization has proved again and again that it is up to the task of showing and telling the Missouri frontier story through exciting programs and preservation initiatives, and I'm ready to build on that tradition. **Are you with me?** ▶



*Dorothy Curran  
Huston, Louise Eads  
and Sallie Hailey  
were among the  
visionaries who  
founded Friends of  
Arrow Rock.*

## Children’s Craft Festival: A Blast From The Past

It was a wonderful, albeit warm, fall day for our Children’s Craft Festival — the first time we planned one in consecutive years since we began in 1984! When inclement weather forced us to cancel the 2014 festival, we held the festival for the first time in an odd-numbered year in 2015.

Twenty schools attended the 2016 festival, along with a small group of home educators, on par with last year. Total attendance included 1,000 students and adults. While we saw a decrease in the number of students attending, this was due to smaller school class sizes. Everyone had a great time and we raised more than \$4,000 for our Friends of Arrow Rock education programs.

This year we asked students to play a BINGO-style game to enhance their participation and provide us with feedback on the festival. One of the questions requested they choose their favorite activity. Results revealed we offered something for everyone; there was a great balance between all the activities! Our next Children’s Craft Festival will be held in 2018. ▶



*Above: Potter Greig Thompson demonstrates his craft. Top right: Ethan Duke of Missouri River Bird Observatory and FAR Trustee Karen Avery Miller were among the volunteers who shared their time and talents with the students. Bottom right: FAR Trustee Judy Smith, a talented quilter, shows a student how to stitch.*

## Cheers To Another Great Sip & Stroll

This year's Sip & Stroll attendees were treated to gorgeous weather while touring four lovely Arrow Rock homes, then feasted on a delicious meal prepared by Plowboys BBQ of Marshall, Mo. The event, which took place on Sept. 17, netted more than \$14,000 for Friends of Arrow Rock. We thank all the attendees and auction bidders, and offer our profound gratitude to Joe Summers of Summers Auctioneers, Russ Fisher of Trumans Bar & Grill, Bill and Jennifer True, Aramark Uniform Services, members of the Fundraising Events Committee, and homeowners Mike and Mary Duncan, Steve Stroade and Danny Ng, Dan Auman and Kirby McCullough, and Marti and Richard Hodge. ▶



*Clockwise from above: Sip & Stroll homeowners Steve Stroade, Danny Ng, Mike and Mary Duncan relax after the homes tour; New FAR Trustee Mike Reid poses with FAR First Vice President Donna Huston; Marti Hodge (facing forward) welcomes attendees to her new home with husband Richard in Arrow Rock; Fresh flowers adorn the registration table.*



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NEWSPAPER & FURNISHINGS  
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MISSOURI PRESS  
ASSOCIATION  
AUGUST 14, 1986

# Jeffris Preservation Project Heads Toward Completion

**A**fter a soggy summer, Mother Nature gave us a break this fall and the crew from Pishny Restoration Services, the contractor we've employed for our Jeffris Preservation Project, has made remarkable progress.

The work at the John P. Sites Gunsmith Shop and the Sites House primarily has focused on diverting water away from the foundations. We also removed several inches of dirt that had built up above the stone foundations, which had allowed the brick exteriors to absorb moisture from the soil. With the installation of a sophisticated new drainage system and regrading of the property, we're now directing rainwater safely away from these important and irreplaceable historic structures. Pishny's talented team has reconstructed the stone retaining wall at the front of those properties using the original stones, and at press time were relaying the brick sidewalk.

In the weeks to come, the Sites House will receive a healthy dose of insulation in the attic, making that building energy efficient for the organization and more comfortable for visitors.

The most noticeable changes are taking place at the 1868 Odd Fellows Lodge building, which also houses the Missouri Press Association's print shop museum. The original structural support in that building wasn't designed to hold up all those heavy printing presses in the museum, but the new supports are more than up to the task. New electrical service and a state-of-the-art heat pump system means the building will enjoy year-round comfort.

Once the project is complete, the print shop museum will reopen and Friends of Arrow Rock will work collaboratively with the Odd Fellows organization to create an engaging interpretive display in the upstairs Odd Fellows Lodge Hall.

We anticipate completion of the entire project in early 2017. Make plans to attend the First Saturday lecture on Saturday, May 6, 2017. In honor of Preservation Month, FAR Properties Manager Marty Selby will give a guided tour of the completed Jeffris Preservation Project and will share valuable secrets from his preservationist's playbook. ▶



*Opposite page: The newly laid brick sidewalk in front of the Odd Fellows Lodge Hall is solid, level and safer for visitors. Clockwise from left: Corey Thomas of Pishny Restoration Services, Architect Marion Smith of Engine House No. 1, and FAR President Tom Hall man the shovel at the official project groundbreaking in June; New structural supports and an HVAC system are among the improvements at the 1868 Odd Fellows Lodge; A French Drain around the historic Sites House will protect the soft brick exterior from moisture; Rico Palacio of Pishny Restoration Services constructs the new exterior ramp on the east side of the Odd Fellows Lodge.*




# APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE! PREMIERE ATTENDEES OFFER HIGH PRAISE FOR OUR BINGHAM FILM

**M**ore than 300 Friends of Arrow Rock members and George Caleb Bingham fans gathered at the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre on Oct. 15 for the world premiere of “*The American Artist: The Life & Times of George Caleb Bingham*.” The documentary shines a spotlight on the life of Arrow Rock’s own George Caleb Bingham, whose paintings documenting life in 19th-century Missouri are now regarded as masterpieces.

The film was made possible thanks to a generous gift from Nancy Joyce Pillsbury and the Ed and H Pillsbury Foundation. Friends of Arrow Rock selected Wide Awake Films of Kansas City to produce the film, and the crowd at the premiere was thrilled with the results. The feedback following the premiere was overwhelmingly positive and sales of the DVDs and Blu-Ray disks have been brisk. Those items, along with commemorative T-shirts, are available in the Friends of Arrow Rock museum shop and at [www.BinghamFilm.com](http://www.BinghamFilm.com).

Special thanks go to the Naught-Naught Agency for sponsoring the reception at the premiere event, to the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre for use of their beautiful facility, and to the Friends of Arrow Rock Fundraising Events Committee for their skillful organization of our first-ever film premiere! The event raised more than \$15,000 to benefit the preservation and education programs of our organization.

## **Taking The Show On The Road**

Following the premiere event in Arrow Rock, Wide Awake Films and the Friends of Arrow Rock have screened *The American Artist* at three of the state’s most prestigious museums: The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, the St. Louis Art Museum, and The State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia. Friends of Arrow Rock Executive Director Sandy Selby introduced the film at each of the venues and shared a bit of Arrow Rock history with the capacity crowds. These screenings have been an outstanding opportunity for our board members and staff to spread the message about the good work being done by our organization to preserve history here in Arrow Rock. 





*Clockwise from above: Shane Seley (left) and Ed Leydecker of Wide Awake Films join project funder Nancy Joyce Pillsbury before the premiere screening; Donna and Alex McBurney visit with FAR Trustee Emeritus Ibbey Kruse and Trustee Chet Breitwieser; FAR Trustee Kathy Digges purchased the print of Fur Traders Descending the Missouri during a live auction following the screening, then donated the painting back to FAR; Dave Bears, Ed Leydecker, Gregg Higginbotham and Aaron Racine.*



*Far left: A near-capacity crowd gathers at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City on Oct. 27 for a screening of the film; FAR Trustee Mary Burge (in blue) was an extra in the film and attended the Nelson-Atkins event.*

## Bill Lovin (1924-2016)

By Dr. Thomas B. Hall, Friends of Arrow Rock President

With the death of Bill Lovin, age 92, on November 2, the Friends of Arrow Rock lost a loyal member, emeritus trustee and past officer. When Bill and Mary moved to Arrow Rock 25 years ago following Bill's retirement, they immediately became active

in many Arrow Rock activities and organizations, including the Friends. Bill served as a trustee of the Friends from 1993 to 2008, and then became an active trustee emeritus. Bill also served as secretary and first vice-president of the Friends; he took all of these

responsibilities very seriously. In addition, Bill and his wife Mary were very active citizens of the town of Arrow Rock. They were members of the Arrow Rock Federated Church and the Historic Arrow Rock Council, and Bill was a member of the Arrow Rock

Masonic Lodge and the Arrow Rock Fire Department. Bill and Mary enjoyed their attractive home in Arrow Rock, which they built for their retirement years. Bill had many friends in Arrow Rock and he truly made the community his home. He will be missed. ▶



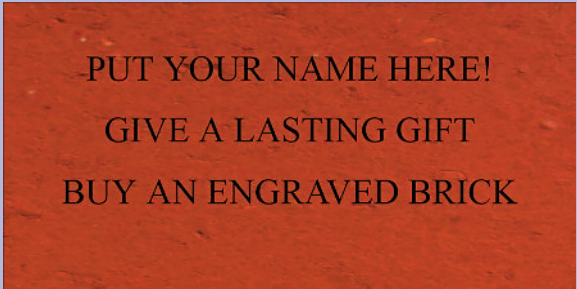
### - R E C E N T M E M O R I A L S A N D H O N O R S -

*In honor of John Callison:* Ann Nichols | *In memory of Anna Mae Hodge:* Henry & Barbara Perkins | *In honor of the marriage of Ibbey Kruse & Larry Barrett:* Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns, Kathy Cary, Pat & Charles Cooper, Donna & John Huston, Day & Whitney Kerr, Betty Sue Simonson, Irma Whitlock | *In memory of Bill Lovin:* Darla & Robert Beerup, Kathy Borgman, Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns, Connie & Gerald Cunningham, Tom & Margaret Hall, Donna & John Huston, Betty Kusgen, Esther & Danny Lovin, Pamela Parsons, Pam & Kevin Riggs | *In honor of Paul Ratchliffe:* Gina & Tom Sandwith | *In memory of Joyce Vinson:* Bunny Thomas & Ken Blair, Jennifer & Bill True

# A Gift Carved In Stone

**DO YOU LOVE ARROW ROCK SO MUCH THAT YOU'D LIKE TO PUT YOUR NAME ON IT?**

Friends of Arrow Rock has launched a brick campaign to fund the much-needed construction of a new sidewalk in front of the 1872 Christian Church and complete the interior electrical rewiring of the church. When you purchase one of these commemorative bricks, we will have it engraved with your special message — up to three lines of 18 characters each. These high-quality, durable bricks will be interspersed with the bricks of the new sidewalk and will serve as a lasting reminder of your gift. You can use it to memorialize or honor someone special, or to express your love for this special place.



Each brick is \$100 and you may purchase and personalize multiple bricks if you wish. To purchase a brick for this campaign, visit the Friends of Arrow Rock website at [www.FriendsofArrowRock.org/brick](http://www.FriendsofArrowRock.org/brick) or call our office at 660-837-3231. The campaign will conclude on Feb. 27, 2017. We hope to show off the new sidewalk at our 2017 annual meeting in late spring. 🔥

## FIND YOUR FAVORITE WAY TO HELP

The important work of maintaining 13 historic properties and conducting our education programs takes consistent funding and dedicated volunteers.

**Here are some ways you can help Friends of Arrow Rock in 2017.**

- Make an end-of-the-year charitable contribution this December. You may designate your gift for a special purpose or give us permission to use it where it is most needed.
- Volunteer as a leader or helper for our 2017 spring education programs. This year we have a fantastic opportunity for individuals who are interested in our new Famous Missourians module.
- Shop on Amazon.com! Start your shopping at Smile.Amazon.com. This portal to the Amazon.com website allows you to designate your favorite charity – and we hope that's the Friends of Arrow Rock! – to receive a donation from Amazon.com with every purchase you make.
- Join our Legacy Society by remembering Friends of Arrow Rock in your will.
- Renew your Friends of Arrow Rock membership for 2017. Your regular membership contributions are the foundation on which this organization is built. Thank you for your support!

Join the Friends of Arrow Rock today!

**Joining us is easy!** Pay by check, mail to the address on the website or join us with a secure credit card donation online at [FriendsofArrowRock.org](http://FriendsofArrowRock.org).

**YES, I want to be a Friend of Arrow Rock!**



Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

My check made payable to Friends of Arrow Rock Inc, is enclosed.

Mail to: Friends of Arrow Rock, P.O. Box 124, Arrow Rock, Missouri 65320

Or join with a secure credit card donation online at [FriendsofArrowRock.org](http://FriendsofArrowRock.org).

\* Consider making a recurring (monthly) gift electronically via our website [FriendsofArrowRock.org](http://FriendsofArrowRock.org) under the "Get to Know Us" tab. This type of giving helps us operate more efficiently and economically year round.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- >  Life \$1,000
- >  Benefactor \$500
- >  Patron \$250
- >  Sponsor \$100
- >  Sustaining \$50
- >  Supporting \$30

➡ PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING OUR LEGACY SOCIETY BY REMEMBERING THE FRIENDS OF ARROW ROCK IN YOUR WILL. HAR

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Our Mission: Sharing the Missouri Frontier Experience



### *An Invitation to Join the Friends of Arrow Rock*

**T**he Friends of Arrow Rock safeguards the history, historical artifacts and 13 of the historical structures of the village of Arrow Rock, a National Historic Landmark, through ongoing education programs and preservation initiatives. **Please join us in 2016, our 57th year,** and help us share the Missouri frontier experience with this and future generations. Memberships may be deductible for income tax purposes.

**FOR MEMBERSHIP  
INFORMATION →**

**CALL:** 660-837-3231  
**EMAIL:** office@FriendsOfArrowRock.org  
**WEB:** FriendsOfArrowRock.org

#### **Officers**

President: Thomas B. Hall III, M.D.  
1st Vice President: Donna Huston  
2nd Vice President: Pat Cooper  
Secretary: Judy Smith  
Treasurer: Jan Hinnah

#### **Past Presidents**

Louise Peery Eads 1959-1969  
Louise Hall Bagby 1969-1975  
V. Paul Ratcliffe 1975-1982  
Day Gibson Kerr 1982-1995  
Barbara Quinn 1995-2001  
Sue E. Stubbs 2001-2004

#### **Trustees**

Dan Auman  
Toni Blackwood, J.D.  
Nancy Blossom  
Chet F. Breitwieser  
Mary Burge  
Kathy Cary  
Kathy Digges  
Lucy Fletcher  
Richard M. Hodge, D.D.S.  
Donald S. Huff, J.D.  
Blaine Murrell McBurney, Ph.D.  
Karen Avery Miller  
Lloyd Parker

Pam Parsons  
Michael C. Reid  
Kevin T. Riggs  
Bill True

#### **Trustees Emeritus**

George Huff  
Elizabeth Kruse  
Carol Pemberton  
L. M. Tough III

#### **Executive Director**

Sandy Selby

#### **Operations Director**

Mandy Dorrance

### *Thank You to ...*

**Pam Parsons** for historic items to be used in our education programs, and for funding the development of our Famous Missourians education module as a memorial tribute to Bill Lovin.

**Kathy Digges** for the purchase and donation of the Fur Traders Descending the Missouri print used in "The American Artist" film.

**Rosemary Kelly** for the American flag and mount for the Shelby Log Cabin.

**Tom Hall** for historical items and documents relating to Arrow Rock and Friends of Arrow Rock.

**Bill & Jennifer True** for the "Tom Sawyer" videotape and other historical items.

**Paul Ratcliffe** for Friends of Arrow Rock historical documents



**CHECK OUT** our Web page at FriendsOfArrowRock.org and "like" us on Facebook.

➔ ~ FRIENDSOFARROWROCK.ORG ~ ⚡

**OUR VISION:** To develop Arrow Rock into one of the premier historic destinations in the country so that the important lessons of our past will not be forgotten.

**On the cover** The calaboose is all decked out for the holidays. Legend has it this one-room stone jail was used only once and the prisoner made such a racket that he was released before morning. The calaboose is maintained by the Arrow Rock State Historic Site.