

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

HISTORIC ARROW ROCK™

Vol. 37
No. 2

Fall/Winter
2017

→ *A Warm Welcome:
Visitors Get VIP Treatment*

→ *FAR 'Paints The Town'
With 2017 Projects*

→ *Eagle Scouts
Take Flight In Arrow Rock*

+ *Our 2018 Wish List*



An Authentic Christmas

My very first trip to Arrow Rock was during the holiday season. Even before I knew the depth of this town's history, I was captivated by the exquisite simplicity of Arrow Rock's architecture, the unique stone gutters, and the holiday decorations fashioned from live greenery, fruit and dried flowers. There was an air of serenity in the village that truly captured the Christmas spirit for me. All these years later, it still does.

Arrow Rock's authenticity sets it apart from so many other historic attractions. While other historic spots tell their story from within buildings constructed to look old, Arrow Rock's buildings are the real deal. Enter our 1868 Odd Fellows Lodge Hall building, and you'll be walking in the very footsteps of artist George Caleb Bingham. The Brown's Chapel congregation disbanded in the 1980s, but spend some time in that building and you'll swear you feel the loving spirit of its members. Step inside the John P. Sites Gunsmith Shop and you can practically feel the heat from the forge warming you on a chilly winter's day.



Sandy Selby
Executive Director
Friends of Arrow Rock

Friends of Arrow Rock was founded by people who were determined to safeguard that authenticity, and 58 years later, we are proud to continue that good work by protecting irreplaceable historic structures and artifacts, and teaching children and adults about the people and events that shaped this town.

I hope you'll come to Arrow Rock for a visit this holiday season, and take in the beautiful natural greenery and candlelit windows that are the hallmarks of the town's Christmas decor. Pause in front of one of the Friends of Arrow Rock's 13 painstakingly preserved buildings and imagine yourself transported back to the 1800s, when only the most adventurous souls made their way this far west. As you appreciate Arrow Rock in the present, picture Arrow Rock's Christmases past, then envision the village's bright future where history lives on for future generations to appreciate, thanks to the work you make possible as a member of Friends of Arrow Rock. ▶

Thank you for your support. I wish you a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

Arrow Rock Featured In Missouri Life

Missouri Life featured a story on Arrow Rock's black history in its October issue. The story, written by Sandy Selby, describes the essential role black citizens played in the development of Arrow Rock, and how Friends of Arrow Rock is sharing that story through its museums and preservation projects. You can read the story in the October 2017 issue of *Missouri Life* or online at www.missourilife.com/arrow-rocks-hidden-black-history/. ▶



Arrow Rock Welcomes Visiting Organizations

→ | This year, Arrow Rock became a gathering place for three important organizations: | ←
the Boonslick Historical Society, the Missouri Parks Association, and the Missouri Arts Council.

In July, the **Boonslick Historical Society** held its summer meeting in the village. The event included an overview of Arrow Rock history presented by Arrow Rock State Historic Site Administrator Mike Dickey, and a before-and-after look of the town's historic preservation efforts, led by Friends of Arrow Rock Executive Director Sandy Selby. Following the program, members of the group toured the three buildings that were part of the recently completed Jeffris Preservation Project. FAR's Historic Preservation Consultant Marty Selby led the tour and explained the work that had been done on each building.

The **Missouri Parks Association** held its three-day annual meeting in Arrow Rock in October. This group also toured the village, led by staff from FAR and the Arrow Rock State Historic Site, with stops at five Friends of Arrow Rock properties. The Missouri Parks Association is devoted to the protection of Missouri's state parks and historic sites, and its members were thrilled with the opportunity to visit the town where it all started; Arrow Rock is the home of the very first state park in Missouri.

The **Missouri Arts Council** came to town for a two-day meeting in late October, and it was the first visit to Arrow Rock for many on this prestigious board. We have a feeling it won't be their last. Shortly after arriving, the group was treated to an elegant reception at the historic Prairie Park plantation home west of Arrow Rock. Friends of Arrow Rock President Donna Huston, along with representatives from the Arrow Rock town board and the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre spoke to the group the following morning, sharing information about the town and all it has to offer. At the conclusion of their business meeting, members of the group joined Sandy Sandy and Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre Artistic Director Quin Gresham for a walking tour of the village, with stops at the Sites House and Gun Shop, the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre, and the George Caleb Bingham house. ▶



Arrow Rock community leaders enjoyed showing off our village to the Missouri Arts Council. Pictured here, left to right, are Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre Artistic Director Quin Gresham, MAC Executive Director Michael Donovan, MAC Chairman Sharon Besbore, FAR President Donna Huston, Arrow Rock Town Board Chairman Kirby McCullough, Experience Arrow Rock Chairman Dan Auman.

Writers Find Inspiration At Workshop

For two days in August, two dozen talented writers came together to share encouragement and learn more about their art. The collegial, supportive group bonded quickly over the course of the event. During the fun, instructive sessions, writing pros offered tips they had learned along the way and led the group through writing exercises. The second day of the workshop opened with faculty and students gathering around the stone council ring at the guest home of Tom and Margaret Hall for an inspiring open reading session.

This year's keynote speaker was Rose Marie Kinder, author of "An Absolute Gentleman" and "The Universe Playing Strings." Kinder, who is also a talented bluegrass musician, even entertained the participants with an impromptu concert during the Friday evening dinner presentation.

This year's workshop was led by volunteer facilitator Theresa McClellan, with assistance from former magazine editor and FAR Executive Director Sandy Selby. Plans are already underway for the 2018 Arrow Rock Writing Workshop, Aug. 10-11. Jonelle Patrick, author of the "Only In Tokyo" series of mystery novels, will be the keynote speaker and will lead a workshop session on evoking a sense of place.

Watch our website at www.FriendsofArrowRock.org for details and workshop registration information.

IF YOU ARE READING THIS NEWSLETTER, you are no doubt a supporter of the Friends of Arrow Rock as a donor or visitor. Perhaps you might wonder as a supporter if the board members of the Friends are doing their job. The answer is an resounding “yes!” In short, they are



*Donna Huston
President
Friends of Arrow Rock*

working hard to accomplish our missions of preserving our 13 buildings and educating the visitors to Arrow Rock. Fifty-eight years ago on June 14, several members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, led by Louise Eads, decided that the village of Arrow Rock needed to be saved and the best way to go about it was to restore its historic

buildings. The Friends of Arrow Rock was born, and its charter members got to work. First on their list was the Old Courthouse. The group held a huge auction of antiques and furniture to raise enough money for building materials; volunteers performed almost all the labor on the project. Other fundraisers followed, including homes tours, and a cookbook compiled and edited by Dorothy Huston that is still for sale today.

These days, the Friends of Arrow Rock owns 12 restored buildings, plus the Sappington Museum that was constructed in 1974. Within those buildings you'll find museums, a craft shop, the post office, a working gunsmith's shop, meeting rooms, and more!

After many years of running the organization with volunteers, the leadership of Friends of Arrow Rock realized they needed to hire an executive director. A donation from Crosby Kemper made it possible. So in 1984 – a big year for FAR – the organization hired Kathy Borgman as executive director, established an endowment fund, and launched its spring education programs.

Here are some facts about our organization today.

- Our current board consists of 25 members, all of whom are on at least one of 13 working committees: Education, Collections, Development, Finance, Executive, Nominating, Museum Shop, Gun Shop, Properties, Interpretation, Events, Miller House, and Membership.
- Our staff consists of a full-time executive director and operations director, and three part-time interpreters.

The 25 members of our board offer us expertise in many ways. We have accountants, lawyers, designers, antique appraisers, medical professionals, artists, administrators, teachers, real estate agents, fundraisers, and art museum professionals.

Our board members come from a wide geographic area, including Arrow Rock, Kansas City, St. Louis, Jefferson City, Marshall, Boonville, Columbia, Harrisburg, Carrollton ... and even New Orleans!

We have four regular board meetings each year.


The Friends of Arrow Rock's mission is supported by our events, educational programs, membership dues, and yearly pledges by board members. Memorials and bequests help bolster our endowment.

The events committee put together three incredible events in 2017. In June, we reprised the Arrow Rock Auction, and it was such a success that we plan to repeat the event every few years going forward. The popular Sip & Stroll in September featured four lovely Arrow Rock homes. (And save the date for next year's Sip & Stroll on Sept. 22, 2018.) Our Holiday with Friends in December was a festive finish to a fabulous year!

Sandy Selby, our executive director, has added two successful walking tours to the organization's offering, including “A Mile in Her Shoes” in March and May that celebrates Arrow Rock's most influential women, and the very popular October “Night Walks” that add a touch of spooky fun to the historical tales.

Our First Saturday Lectures bring in fascinating speakers on diverse topics and next year's line-up looks particularly strong with talks on topics that include racial identity, the Missouri River and the social history of knitting, among others. The lectures start up again on Feb. 3 with Larry Brown's presentation on “Missouri's Alexander the Great.”

Educating youth about the history of the region is of primary importance to our organization. Every spring for six weeks, we welcome visiting classes of elementary school-children to participate in our programs, including Family Life & School Days in the 1800s (first and second grades); Natural & Cultural History of Arrow Rock (second through fifth grades); Governing the Frontier (fourth through sixth grades); and Famous Missourians (second through fifth grades). In 2017, our springtime programs served nearly 1,300 children.

The children's craft festival is held every other year in September and is on the calendar for Sept. 25, 2018. Children enjoy hands-on lessons in apple-butter making, quilting, pottery, woodworking, butter-churning, weaving, rug-hooking, rope-making, and more; Plus, there are old-fashioned games and interesting demonstrations for the kids to enjoy. We expect more than 1,000 youngsters to make their way to Arrow Rock for this unique event. 

— I hope you are pleased with the Friends of Arrow Rock's accomplishments. Thank you for your support. We hope you will visit our village soon. —

EVENTS

— WINTER/SPRING 2018 FRIENDS OF ARROW ROCK EVENTS —

— TALKS & TOURS —

- Saturday, Feb. 3** First Saturday Lecture: "Missouri's Alexander the Great" (Alexander William Doniphan), by Larry Brown; *free; 10 a.m.; Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center*
- Saturday, Feb. 24** "Bluebirds": a special presentation by Missouri River Bird Observatory; *free; 10 a.m.; Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center*
- Saturday, March 3** First Saturday Lecture: "The Fenwicks of Arrow Rock, 1835-present: My ancestry, racial identity, and patriotism," by Dr. Michael Kateman; *free; 10 a.m.; Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center*
- Sunday, March 25** A Mile In Her Shoes (Women's History Walk); \$15; *2 p.m. beginning at 310 Main Street, reservations required at www.FriendsofArrowRock.org or 660-837-3231*
- Saturday, April 7** First Saturday Lecture: "Native American Art," by Joe Don Brave; *free; 10 a.m.; Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center*
- Saturday, May 5** First Saturday Lecture: "The Social History of Knitting," by Nancy Blossom; *free; 10 a.m.; Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center*
- Sunday, May 13** A Mile In Her Shoes (Women's History Walk); \$15; *2 p.m. beginning at 310 Main Street, reservations required at www.FriendsofArrowRock.org or 660-837-3231*
- Saturday, June 2** First Saturday Lecture: "Jesse James, Jo Shelby and the War After the War," by Aaron Barnhart; *free; 10 a.m. Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitor Center*



The 2017 Sip & Stroll features four local homes, plus the historic Sites House. At top, Kim Ratcliffe, Ashley Ratcliffe Beumer and Lindsay Ratcliffe Boltan welcome guests to the Ratcliffes' recently restored home. Above, Cindy Peecher (on left) greets Jon Green and Lucy Fletcher as they tour the Peecher home and shop on the Arrow Rock boardwalk.



AND SAVE THE DATES FOR:

ARROW ROCK WRITING WORKSHOP, AUG. 10-11

SIP & STROLL, SEPT. 22

ARROW ROCK NIGHT WALKS, EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY EVENING IN OCTOBER

HOLIDAY WITH FRIENDS, DEC. 9

OUTER BEA

— FRIENDS OF ARROW ROCK COMPLETES MAJOR EXTERIO

Friends of Arrow Rock painted the town in 2017 ... or, rather, three of the town's most historic buildings! Thanks to the generosity of our members, we completed three major exterior paint projects this year. The Sites House benefitted from drainage improvements and new insulation during the recently completed Jeffris Project, but with its dingy and peeling paint, the house didn't reflect well on the effort that had gone into its preservation. FAR's Properties Committee put a priority on getting the elaborate trim repainted on this fine example of country Victorian style. This cottage that had been "Victorianized" in the 1870s by local gunsmith John Sites and his wife, Nannie. When painting contractor Kevin McCartney and his crew were finished, the house had recaptured its glory as one of Arrow Rock's most beautiful buildings.


Brown's Lodge No. 22, home of the Arrow Rock Black History Museum, attracts hundreds of interested and respectful visitors each year, but one group of visitors ... woodpeckers ... were wreaking havoc on the exterior of this important historic structure. Local Arrow Rock residents Kelee Katillac and Steve Heiffus, historic preservationists and owners of Heartland Historic Homes, stepped up with a donation that made it possible for Friends of Arrow Rock to repair and repaint of the exterior of Brown's Lodge. Toliver Painting & Refinishing performed the work. It is hoped that the lighter shade of paint, coupled with strategies suggested by woodpecker expert Sean O'Daniels, will discourage the woodpeckers from returning.

Our final painting project of the year was pushed ahead by attendees at our annual Sip & Stroll event, who raised their hands during the fund-a-need portion of our live auction. The 1868 Masonic Lodge Hall houses the Arrow Rock Craft Shop, a tenant of the building since 1961. The trim portions of this stately brick structure were in need of fresh paint, and the generosity of our bidders made it possible to accomplish the project this year. Toliver Painting & Refinishing did the work and the Masonic Lodge now holds its own against its twin across the street, the Odd Fellows Lodge Hall.

Ask our painting contractors and they'll tell you that Friends of Arrow Rock is one of their pickiest clients. Marty Selby, our contracted historic preservation consultant, has established exacting standards that are proven to extend the life of a paint job. These methods mean more prep work for the painters up front, but save the organization money in the long run by giving us many more years between paint jobs.

Earlier this year, we gave our members the opportunity to purchase an engraved brick for the sidewalk in front of the 1872 Christian Church. The response far exceeded our expectations and the engraved bricks fully funded the replacement of a sidewalk that had deteriorated to the point it was treacherous for visitors. Contractor Ron Green and his crew removed the crumbling brick sidewalk and replaced it with new pavers and the engraved bricks. They used a technique that makes it

possible for us to add additional engraved bricks in the future, if others wish to leave their lasting mark on the town.

What's next on our preservation to-do list? Check out our wish list on Page 11. We welcome your questions about our preservation efforts and are delighted to give tours of our projects. Contact Executive Director Sandy Selby at 660-837-3231. 



Brown's Lodge No. 22 shows off a fresh new coat of exterior paint. The building houses our Arrow Rock Black History Museum. The intricate trim work of the Sites House required painstaking attention from our skilled painting contractor.

The completed brick sidewalk in front of the historic Christian Church on Main Street features engraved bricks purchased during our Brick-By-Brick campaign. We will be adding new bricks annually. To purchase a brick for the walk, visit friendsofarrowrock.org/brick or call the FAR office at 660-837-5251.



We've watched the young men from Boy Scout Troop 49 grow up before our eyes. Wasn't it only yesterday that little Scott Roth and Ben Holder were volunteering to rake leaves on Friends of Arrow Rock properties? Now these two young men are taking flight as Eagle Scouts, and they chose Friends of Arrow Rock as the recipient of their Eagle projects.

Ben and Scott met with the FAR staff earlier this year to discuss potential projects. From there they researched the options and costs, then wrote formal proposals that were approved by both Boy Scout officials and the Friends of Arrow Rock.

Scott selected the construction of sound-absorbing panels for Brown's Chapel. The chapel frequently is used as a meeting room, but the sound in the space was so lively that normal conversation echoed in the space, making communication difficult. Scott constructed panels consisting of sound-proofing tiles adhered to plywood, covered with burlap, and mounted on the walls of the chapel. The result is remarkable! The sound quality is much improved, making the space more attractive for groups looking for a place to meet. (FAR also added new, more comfortable chairs and WiFi to Brown's Chapel this year!)

Ben built seven new benches that have been placed in front of three of our buildings, including the FAR office on the boardwalk, the Odd Fellows Lodge and the Sites Gun Shop. These sturdy new benches are attractive and well-built, and the design fits in seamlessly with the historic vibe of the village. Ben completed the work and delivered the benches in time for this year's annual Heritage Festival, which brings thousands of visitors to the village. Minutes after Ben set the benches in place, visitors discovered them and were enjoying the comfort they provided.

Friends of Arrow Rock is proud of Scott and Ben, and we are grateful for their leadership on these much-needed projects. ▶

EAGLES IN ARROW ROCK

FAR Benefits From Boy Scout Projects

Eagle Scout candidates shared their time and talents to help Friends of Arrow Rock this year. Ben Holder constructed seven sturdy, attractive benches to be used at Friends of Arrow Rock properties. Scott Roth researched, designed and constructed sound-absorbing panels for Brown's Chapel.



We Bid Farewell To Three Dear Friends

By Sandy Selby, Executive Director

- Mary Burge - (1930-2017)

Mary Burge was a lifelong Arrow Rocker, a fact that was a tremendous source of pride for her. For those of us who revere this town's history, Mary's devotion to Arrow Rock and her strong connection with its past were gifts beyond measure.

Long before I held my current position with FAR, I was helping then-Executive Director Kathy Borgman collect oral histories. Kathy invited Mary to sit down with us for a conversation. Mary began the evening by saying she didn't know what she could possibly talk about. I asked one question, and that's all it took. She started with childhood recollections

and followed the thread of her memory through current events. It was a journey that lasted over the course of two evenings!

Mary was a charter member of the Friends of Arrow Rock and served on our board of trustees for 58 years, many of those as board secretary. She devoted countless hours to this organization as a volunteer, and was instrumental to the success of our spring children's programs, serving as a "school marm" for our popular "Family Life & School Days in the 1800s" program. She particularly relished opportunities to portray Nannie Sites, wife of local gunsmith Johnny Sites,

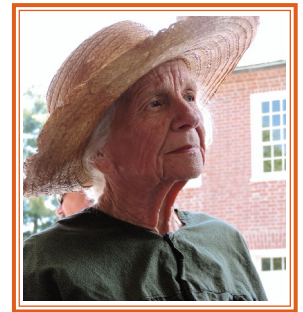
as an interpreter at the Sites House during tours and special events.

A versatile entertainer, Mary was gifted as an actor, singer and dancer. She made multiple appearances on stage at the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre and other regional play houses, and as an extra in movies that were filmed in this area, including the 1973 "Tom Sawyer" musical. For many years, she led the singing at the annual Hanging of Greens event and the Heritage Festival worship service here in Arrow Rock, and was a longtime board member and deacon at the Arrow Rock Federated Church.

She traveled far and wide as a member and officer of the Daughters of the American Revolution and many other

organizations, and wherever she went she was an enthusiastic ambassador for Arrow Rock.

The Friends of Arrow Rock board invited the community to contribute to a memorial bench for Mary. The bench sits at the corner of Fourth and Main Streets, in front of the Shelby Log Cabin. On it is a sentiment penned by Irving Berlin that seems to capture Mary's lasting influence on our town: "The song has ended, but the melody lingers on." ▶



- Keith Anderson - (1958-2017)

Keith Anderson once described life in Arrow Rock as "the cruise that never ends." It that's true, there was no better cruise director than Keith. He had a gift for conversation and for putting people at ease. There were no strangers in Keith's world, just friends he hadn't yet met.

Keith's easygoing manner and ready laugh made the first impression, but it didn't take me long to realize that he was wise. His wisdom didn't spring solely from his intelligence, which he possessed in abundance, but from his way of communicating. Keith was

generous with his advice - not in a "Here's what you should do" sort of way, but in a "Let's talk about it over a glass of wine and see what we can figure out" way that was never preachy. Keith made me a better person for having known him, and I suspect I am just one of many who can say that.

Keith and his wife, Leslie, owned a second home in Arrow Rock. They didn't ease into the community here; they leaped into the heart of the action and became some of our most avid and dependable volunteers. If we needed help setting up or cleaning up, Keith was there. If

we were raising money or developing programs, Keith was there. If we needed a volunteer to wear a claustrophobic Easter bunny costume, Keith was there. No job was too small for someone whose heart was that big.

He served on the Friends of Arrow Rock board from 2011 to 2016, and was a member of our nominating, interpretation and executive committees. He also served as treasurer for the town's tourism committee.

In the professional realm, he was the executive director of a nonprofit organization: Gift of Life in Kansas City. Day in and day out, he worked with families as they dealt with the swirling emotions that come

along with organ donation. It is a testament to his strength that he could wade into the saddest situations with empathy and compassion, and not get lost in the undertow.

Those of us who were honored by Keith's friendship will long feel the pain of his absence, but he would be the first to laugh it off and tell us all to keep on cruising. ▶



– Marjorie Fletcher –
(1933-2017)

Marge Fletcher was the very definition of an involved citizen. The list of organizations she served as a volunteer and supporter is long, and includes her church, youth organizations, social clubs, the local hospital board,

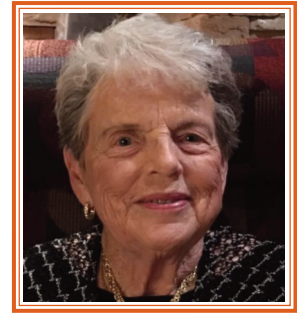
the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre and the Friends of Arrow Rock.

But more than for what she did, Marge will be remembered for who she was – a kind and joyful person who lived with passion. I didn't

have the opportunity to know Marge well, but here's what I did know: she was absolutely devoted her to family. Her joie de vivre shines on through her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Her generosity to the Friends of Arrow Rock helped us grow as an organization. Marge's imprint will remain on this town, thanks to the projects

she supported and the energy she brought to everything she touched. ▶



– 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 memory of Keith Anderson: Kathy Borgman, Kathy & Charlie Digges, Mandy Dorrance & Bruce Satterlee, Margaret & Thomas Hall, Marti & Richard Hodge, Sandy & Marty Selby | *In memory of Mary Burge:* Virginia & Bobby Ashford, Dan Auman & Kirby McCullough, Toni & George Blackwood, Paula & Larry Blevins, Nancy & Dennis Blossom, Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns, Elaine & Danny Breshears, Anita & Steve Byers, Kathy Cary, Pat & Charles Cooper, Raylene & Leroy Cornine, Connie & Gerald Cunningham, Kathy & Charlie Digges, Mandy Dorrance & Bruce Satterlee, Henrietta & Monte Fenner, Lucy Fletcher, Carol Fowler, Shelby Gregory, Margaret & Tom Hall, Marti & Richard Hodge, Donald Huff, Jane & George Huff, Barb & Jim Humburg, Donna & John Huston, Norma Johnson, Audrey & Steve Jones, Michael Kateman, Rosemary Kelly, Day & Whitney Kerr, Betty Kusgen, Jeanne LaRue, Maxine & Robert Lee, Janice & David Malecki, Marshall PEO, Karen & Clay Miller, Mary & David Norbury, Lindi & Patrick Overton, Pamela Parsons, Kim & Paul Ratcliffe, Ed Reis, Michael Reid, Janet Richardson, Pam & Kevin Riggs, Sandy & Marty Selby, Vicki & Randy Shannon, Pamela & Dan Stouffer, Rose Mary Tennill, Kathy Thompson, Jennifer & Bill True, Irma Whitlock, Kay & Dan Yount | *In memory of Lucille Callaway:* Kathy Borgman, Donna & Roger Schmidt, Ryland Utlaut, Loren & Nora Windmeyer | *In honor of John Callison:* Ann Nichols | *In memory of Dottie Dorfman:* Jill & Leland Shurin | *In memory of Marge Fletcher:* Vern E. Ault, Kathy Borgman, Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns, Pat & Charles Cooper, Mandy Dorrance & Bruce Satterlee, Lea Ann & Brad Evans, Donna & John Huston, Elaine Jones, Grayson Kabler, Day & Whitney Kerr, Shirley Mach, Thomas McRoberts, Randy Meyer, Debbie & Mike Mills, Jill Mitchell, Linda & Steve Moles, J.J. Neville, Becky & Paul Porter, Michael Reid, Mike Reilly, Ed Reis, Laura & William Richardson, Pam & Kevin Riggs, Norma Rutter, R. Barclay Smith, Virginia Sprigg, Susan & Tom Stallings, Glenda Stone, Pamela & Don Stouffer, Irma Whitlock, Virginia & Dale Zank | *In memory of Joe Glorioso:* Jill & Leland Shurin | *In honor of Tom Hall:* Althea Breitwieser, Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns, Margaret Weatherly Hall, Gay V. Weake | *In memory of Elmer Horman:* Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns | *In memory of Bill & Mary Lovin:* Day & Whitney Kerr | *In memory of Mary Lovin:* Kathy Borgman, Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns, Elaine & Danny Breshears, Pat & Charles Cooper, Nancy & David Finke, Donna & John Huston, Audrey & Steve Jones, Kevin & Pam Riggs, Marilyn Roth | *In memory of Max Price:* Jill & Leland Shurin | *In memory of Norma Rutter:* Chet Breitwieser & Rod Starns | *In memory of George Schler:* Barbara Schler Rodriguez

W. A. Edwards home & family



— PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT — THE SITES HOUSE —



Like many historic properties, the Sites House has gone through a number of transformations during its lifetime. It started out in the 1830s as a modest, Federal-style cottage. Gunsmith Johnny Sites and his wife, Nannie, purchased the house in 1866, and by the mid-1870s were remodeling it. They literally raised the roof and added two bedrooms upstairs, plus a more elaborate front porch. By the time they had finished, the Federal-style cottage had been transformed into a country Victorian gem.

Over time, this house underwent many more alterations, some more functional than fashionable, but when the Friends of Arrow Rock acquired the property in 1966, they chose to restore it to the Victorian style it wore so well when it was home to the Sites family.

The Friends completed restoration work in 1973. Although the Sites' furnishings had been sold long ago, the restoration committee had them in mind when it decorated the home, selecting the kinds of items that would have been appropriate in the Sites' era.

Successful second restorations of both the Sites Gun Shop and House in 1991 earned the Friends of Arrow Rock the Albert B. Corey Award, the highest national award given a local historical organization by the American Association for State and Local History. Recent work, funded in part by the Jeffris Family Foundation, fixed drainage issues around the house and added insulation to the home's attic.

This property is shown on the Friends of Arrow Rock tram tours, as part of our preservation tours, and during special events. ▶



Opposite page: At top, the earliest known photo of the Sites House when the Edwards family lived in the residence John and Nannie Sites had "Victorianized."

Bottom left: By the mid-1900s, the Sites House had lost its fancy front porch and many of its trim details.

Bottom right: the Friends of Arrow Rock restored the home to its 1870s glory.

This page, above: Friends of Arrow Rock dedicated the newly restored Sites House in 1973.

HELP FRIENDS OF ARROW ROCK GET OFF TO A GREAT START IN 2018!

Friends of Arrow Rock has several important projects we hope to accomplish in the New Year. You can help us share the Missouri frontier experience by designating your year-end, tax-deductible gift for all or a portion of a specific project, or by donating to our general fund to support our ongoing preservation and education activities.

- Provide an education program scholarship for one child or several. (\$5 per child)
- Replace the concrete steps and sidewalk at Brown's Chapel. (\$1,800)
- Replace the obsolete electrical panel at the Miller-Bradford House. (\$2,500)
- Repair the foundation at Brown's Chapel. (\$6,800)
- Replace the wood shingle roof on the John P. Sites House. (\$35,000)
- Restore the 2nd floor of the Masonic Lodge Hall to prepare it for use as office, retail, or meeting space. (approx. \$38,000)
- Use my gift where it is most needed

You may contribute by mailing your check to Friends of Arrow Rock, P.O. Box 124, Arrow Rock, MO 65320, or by calling our office at 660-837-3231 to make your donation via credit card. All donations postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2017 will be acknowledged as 2017 contributions.

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|-----------|-------------------|-----|
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Our Mission: Sharing the Missouri Frontier Experience



An Invitation to Join the Friends of Arrow Rock

The 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 2018, our 59th 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: Donna Huston
Vice President: Chet Breitwieser
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
Thomas B. Hall, M.D. 2004-2017

Trustees

Doug Anning, J.D.
Dan Auman
Toni Blackwood, J.D.
Nancy Blossom
Kathy Cary
Pat Cooper
Lucy Fletcher
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Blaine Murrell McBurney, Ph.D.
Karen Avery Miller
Debbie Mills
Linda Overton
Pamela Parsons
Michael C. Reid

Kevin T. Riggs
Pam Stouffer
Greig Thompson
Bill True

Trustees Emeritus

Kathy Digges
Don Huff
George Huff
Elizabeth Barrett
Carol Pemberton
L. M. Tough III

Executive Director

Sandy Selby

Operations Director

Mandy Dorrance

Thank You to ...

Kelee Katillac and Steve Heiffus of Heartland Historic Homes for funding new exterior paint on Brown Lodge No. 22.

Don Huff for "Missouri Bittersweet" book.

Dr. Tom Hall for three coffee-table books on historic preservation projects.

Paul Ratcliffe for volunteering in the Museum Shop during staff vacations.

Karen Miller for painting the sign on the post office window.

Kevin McCartney for donating radio advertising to publicize the auction.

Mandy Dorrance & Bruce Satterlee for the new American flag for the FAR office/museum shop.

Everyone who donated items to our Arrow Rock Antiques & Collectible Auction.



The historic building that houses the Arrow Rock Post Office is owned and maintained by Friends of Arrow Rock. The post office is open six days a week to serve the community.

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

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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 historic 1872 Christian Church is decorated in its holiday finery. This beautiful building is available for weddings and other occasions. Call 660-837-3231 for information.