

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

# HISTORIC ARROW ROCK™

*Vol. 43*

*No. 1*

—  
*SPRING*  
*2022*



“T 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF  
Tom Sawyer”



**SPRINGTIME GREETINGS TO YOU, as we welcome this beautiful and inspirational season. The visual symphony of blossoms and blooms will reach a crescendo in the coming weeks. We applaud Mother Nature for sharing this reassuring, seasonal gift, and feel gratitude for one of the prettiest seasons in the Village.**

**W**e warmly welcome our new Executive Director, Mr. Jeff Kurtti. Jeff has been serving as our Interim Director for the past six months. During our quarterly Trustees meeting on February 6, the Directorship was offered to and accepted by Jeff. We congratulate him as we look forward to sharing a bright and meaningful future under his leadership.



*Chet Breitwieser  
President  
Friends of Arrow Rock*

Carmack, and General Manager Alan Hagedorn. We look forward to another year of delicious meals and gracious hospitality at Missouri's First State Historic Site—and the oldest continuously operating restaurant west of the Mississippi!

With the combined efforts of our

Executive Director, Interpretation and Education Committees along with the State Historic Site, the J. Huston Tavern experience has been expanded and enhanced through visual interpretation, historic placards, and captioning of historic art and objects. The Huston Mercantile has been re-dressed to convey a memorable history lesson specifically geared toward our ongoing tours and to Elementary School Education Program attendees in April and May (see pages 10-11).

The renovation of Brown's Chapel, thanks to a generous grant from the Sunderland Foundation of Kansas City, has been completed, with a new kitchen, flooring, ADA accessible restroom, a renovated fellowship room, and several repairs inside and outside.

The Antique and Decorative Art Symposium will take place at the Lyceum Theater on Saturday, May 14. A Steering Committee and Events Committee have been hard at work in planning this exciting

cultural event (see pages 12-15).

The Tom Sawyer 50th Anniversary Celebration on July 4th weekend will be a remarkable and nostalgic occasion, as you can see from the features in this issue. Plan to attend the many special events planned to

**REMEMBER, HISTORY IS  
INVALUABLE, LEARN IT,  
EMBRACE IT, TEACH IT,  
AND SHARE IT!**

honor this movie (see opposite page), nominated for three Academy Awards® and filmed in Arrow Rock.

We have so many exciting choices to share with you again this year! We look forward to your visit and doing our part to make it a meaningful experience.

On behalf of our Trustees and Staff, we deeply and sincerely thank you for your continued support. Take good care of one another until we share in your next visit to Arrow Rock.

1972

# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF "Tom Sawyer"

## An unforgettable weekend celebrating Arrow Rock's own classic movie musical!

In the Summer of 1972, Arrow Rock was chosen as a "stand-in" for 1840s Hannibal for the United Artists/Reader's Digest musical production of Mark Twain's *Tom Sawyer*.

The feature was filmed entirely in Missouri—other locations were in Lamine, Blackwater, Lupus and Meramec Caverns—and dozens of regional residents appeared as the Hannibal townsfolk.

The 50th Anniversary of the filming of *Tom Sawyer* is coming this summer, and July 4th weekend will see events, special visitors, and a whole-town celebration of this motion picture and one of its greatest stars, the Village of Arrow Rock.

### — 2022 EVENT SCHEDULE —

#### JUNE 24 - AUGUST 1

- "Starring Arrow Rock: The Making of 'Tom Sawyer'" Exhibit at The State Historic Site

#### SATURDAY, JULY 2

- Location Tours
- "Adapting Twain" Panel Discussion (First Saturday Presentation)
- "the boys:the sherman brothers story" Screening and Q&A

#### SUNDAY, JULY 3

- Location Tours
- Panel Event/Presentation "Tom Sawyer: An Arrow Rock Family Reunion"
- Signing Event with John Whitaker, Jeff East, and Joshua Hill Lewis
- "Tom Sawyer" Music Concert (Lyceum Theatre)

#### MONDAY, JULY 4

- Fourth of July Impromptu Parade
- Independence Day Picnic
- Outdoor Presentation of "Tom Sawyer"

### WITH MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COME!

Event activities, events, and attendees are subject to change.

2022

# Hollywood Finds “Hannibal”

*Fifty Years Ago, Arrow Rock Went to the Movies*



**I**n April of 1971, seasoned Hollywood production men Chico Day and Bill Venegas embarked on a location scouting trip through the American Midwest in search of a location for the planned Arthur P. Jacobs widescreen musical adaptation of Mark Twain’s *Tom Sawyer*.

After some weeks of scouting, a quick jotted note in Jacobs’s files reveals the results of their search. Their recommendation? The on-screen “Hannibal” should be in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, “30 Miles out of Omaha, Platt River, 2 Boats, Delta Queen moved to St. Louis can be used for filming. Limestone Caves.”

Over the following year, correspondence between the film’s producer, Frank Capra Jr. and then-Missouri governor Warren E. Hearnes, as well as Jim Pasley, then-director of the Missouri Tourism Commission, reveals a slow but steady turn of the production from Nebraska to Missouri, and finally to Arrow Rock, where most of the production was shot (other Missouri locations included Blackwater, Lupus, and Meramec Caverns) in the late summer of 1972.

The production ultimately involved residents of Columbia, Marshall, Glasgow, Nelson, and environs; locals spent several weeks portraying townspeople,

and in the half-century since, *Tom Sawyer* has become a beloved community treasure, and source of much local lore.

According to Donna Huston, past president of Friends of Arrow Rock and an “atmosphere” player in the film, “The production designer, Philip Jeffries, immediately saw the potential of filming here in Arrow Rock. He walked through the village and was heard to say happily, ‘I don’t have to build any sets!’”

The few Hollywood touches that were constructed included a jail cell in the Main Street Alley, a Blacksmith Shop on the Tavern Lawn (which also sheltered lighting and production equipment), and Huck Finn’s riverside shanty in Lamine.

“This was an era where films became less studio-bound and more frequently sought both the veracity and the cost savings of going to actual locales,” says writer and film historian Craig D. Barton. “The net result in *Tom Sawyer* is that the reality of Arrow Rock enriches both the look and the feel of the film.

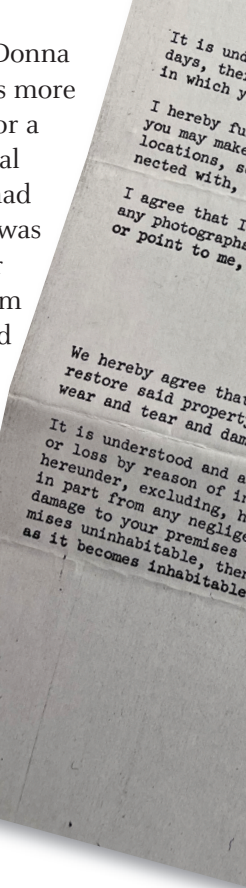
There’s no doubt that’s a real place, and it subtly becomes a *character* in the film.”

Jeffries’ work on this distinctive design was honored with an Academy Award® nomination for Best Production Design.

Enhancing this visual authenticity was the filmmakers’ use of dozens of real residents as the “Hannibal” townsfolk. Dressed in Oscar®-nominated period costumes by DonFeld, and instructed, as Donna recalls, “Don’t wear even a touch of modern make-up!” there isn’t a hint of Hollywood artifice in the *human* atmosphere of the film, which is especially important in critical scenes such as a courtroom trial, a funeral, and a joyous summer picnic.

It was blazingly hot in Arrow Rock that summer, with abundant mosquitoes, poison ivy, and some highly uncomfortable interior sets inside real buildings as the film shot from mid-July to the first week of September. But few of the eyewitnesses complain about those circumstances without a fond smile.

“It was a lot of work,” Donna remembers. “But it was more like a summer picnic or a family reunion. Several of the cast and crew had their children along. I was going to host a dinner party and Celeste Holm (“Aunt Polly”) overheard and asked, ‘Am I invited?’ Imagine! This Broadway star and Academy Award-winner wanted to join us! The Hollywood kids played with the local kids, and I think there may have been a few summer romances,



too," Donna says with a smile and a wink.

Today, even with its amazing pedigree—the screenplay and songs were written by Oscar-winners Robert B. Sherman and Richard M. Sherman, the film received three Oscar nominations (Best Original Score, Best Production Design and Best Costume Design) the Sherman Brothers, along with John Williams, received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Original Score—this remarkable film is somewhat forgotten.

But residents of Arrow Rock will never forget that magical summer, and

Friends of Arrow Rock will continue to research, document, and celebrate its production, and the impact that

was made on the community when Hollywood found "Hannibal" here in Arrow Rock.



"TOM SAWYER"

Gentlemen:

I understand that you are contemplating the use of my property located at Arrowrock, Missouri for the purpose of making still and motion pictures and sound track recordings of, on or about, and in so doing it will be necessary for certain of your personnel and equipment designated by you to be on and about said premises.

Date May 16, 1972

I, the undersigned, warrant that I am (the owner)(the lessee)(agent for the owner) of said premises, that I am fully authorized to enter into this agreement and have the right to grant you the use of said premises and each and all of the rights herein granted.

I hereby grant you the use of said property as follows:

I.O.O.F. Hall  
Gun Shop  
Gunsmith's House  
Loom House  
Lyceum Theater Scene Shop

I understand and agreed that in the event you so utilize said property on one or more premises, thereafter you shall be entitled to use said pictures and recordings in any manner you or your licensees may desire.

I further grant you the right to utilize any and all still or motion pictures which are made or recorded in combination with other still or motion pictures, sets or scenes, or as to represent that said property, or any portion thereof, includes, is contained in, or is a part or portion of other property or sets, either real or simulated.

I will not at any time claim that any characters in any motion picture in which still or recordings made hereunder are used, do or were intended to represent me, or reason of the use of any such photographs or recordings.

Yours truly,  
Mr. George B. Bagby, President  
Friends of Arrowrock

we agree that we will hold you harmless from any damage to your premises or injury, or damage, to property of others resulting from our activities, however, any such claim, damage, loss or injury resulting in whole or in part, for which we are responsible hereunder results in making your premises, for that period necessary to repair said premises to such extent as, we agree to reimburse you for the reasonable loss of use thereof.

APJAC PRODUCTIONS INC.  
By Robert Greenhut  
Production Supervisor

CAST: WARREN CATES as Tom Sawyer, MARY KEENE as Becky Thatcher, RICHARD M. SHERMAN, ROBERT B. SHERMAN  
MUSIC BY: ARTHUR P. JACOBS, PRODUCED BY DON TAYLOR, EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: FRANK CAPRA, JR., JOHN WILLIAMS  
DISTRIBUTED BY: APJAC INTERNATIONAL, INC., FRANKFURT, GERMANY



TOP: The advertising icon for the film was shot on Main Street.

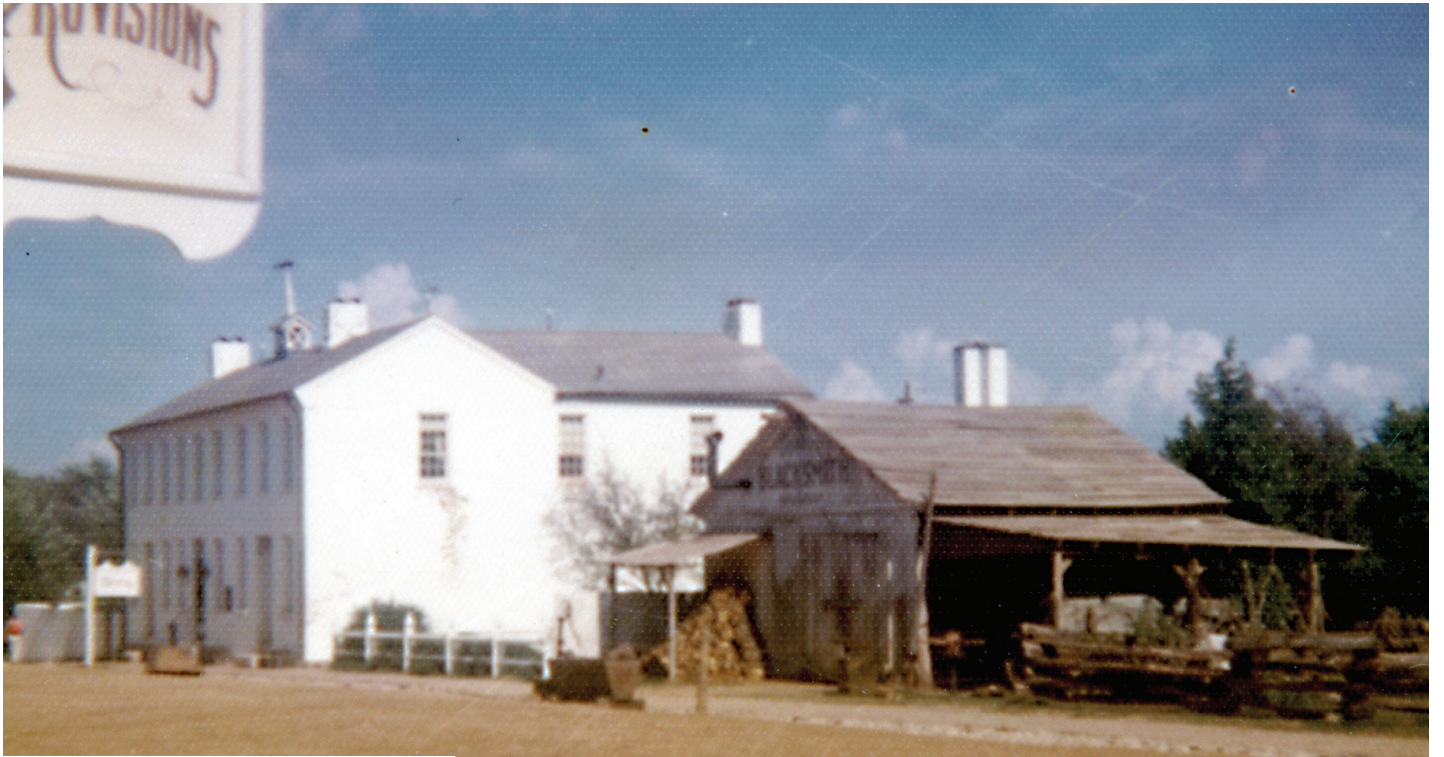
ABOVE: Celeste Holm "on-set" for the picnic scene.

LEFT: An agreement with the production to use FAR locations for filming.

BELOW: Hollywood and "Hannibal" merge in Arrow Rock.

Donna





# WILL SUCCESS SPOIL ARROW ROCK?

How Hollywood Inspired Local Preservation



---

“**T**he filming of *Tom Sawyer* back in 1972 could have spelled the end of something very special in Arrow Rock,” Friends of Arrow Rock Historic Preservation Consultant Marty Selby says. “There were doomsday predictions of our village becoming a tourist trap, and hungry developers building motels, gas stations, and fast food restaurants.”

“Instead, I think that everyone was surprised that the opposite result occurred,” says Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre Producing Artistic Director Quin Gresham. “It seems as if residents finished that overwhelming summer film shoot and looked around—and realized the treasure they had to protect.”

Arrow Rock had been selected by the film producers and production designer because of its enormous visual appeal and period-correct architecture, a real 19th-century town that was a short trip to a splendid make-believe movie set—and much of the fantasy they brought with them has continued to influence the culture of Arrow Rock to this day.

“A lot of Arrow Rock was actually in pretty rough shape in 1972 when the filmmakers came to look at it,” Marty says. “Often what we do in historic preservation isn’t about making things pretty, it’s about taking out stuff that has made things ugly.”

That was the first order of business for the film team. Kansas City Power & Light buried all the electrical lines along Main Street, and within areas where the camera might see them. Likewise, Mid-Missouri Telephone Company in Pilot Grove took their phone lines underground. Several board walks covered concrete sidewalks—including those along the Main Street business blocks. Most of the village streets were buried under three inches of dirt for the duration of the filming.

However, much of the village appears in the film largely unchanged, including the 1872 Christian Church, the Odd Fellows Hall, Aderton House, the J. Huston Tavern, and Main Street. Agreements were signed with the several building owners for filming, the village and residents were asked not to prune, trim, or mow lawns so the art directors could create the proper “untamed look.”

The results onscreen speak for themselves. Arrow Rock reality became a storybook Hannibal of Mark Twain’s youth.

Part of the agreement with producer APJAC Productions was that changes made would be undone. The village leaders, however, had no real desire to undo *everything*. Aderton House retained its “movie fence,” which remains to this day, from its role as Judge Thatcher’s home. The wood boardwalk installed on Main Street for the film has become an Arrow Rock icon, the concrete sidewalks underneath long forgotten.

Shortly after filming, in April of 1973, Page Williams became Mayor of Arrow Rock. Her house at 7th and Main had been the set, inside and out, for Aunt Polly’s house. She had a significant speaking part in *Tom Sawyer*, as the “Saloon Girl” in the courtroom scene. And barely a month after filming, her beautiful house burned to the ground.

According to an article in the *Columbia Tribune* at the time, this event had a deep influence on Page. The Tribune wrote, “the concern that motivated Ms. Williams...to enter the political wars is one over the future of their fair little city...Arrow Rock has come gradually from a heritage demanding no such trappings as zoning laws and building restrictions...But now the new town board may want to assure the future in a more substantial way than merely depending on the inertia of the past...The Arrow Rock town board that was just elected is more oriented toward history than government. This is exactly right for Arrow Rock.”

The decades-long balance between the ideas of history and preservation and those of progress and residency began in earnest. In many ways, this ongoing dialogue was stimulated by the potential (perhaps somewhat taken for granted by residents), that was revealed through the eyes of strangers coming to Arrow Rock and reminding everyone of the value that lay sleeping here. Disturbing nightmares of Hollywood bringing garish motels and roadside greasy spoons were replaced by a more optimistic vision that remains today.

“I’m frankly surprised we haven’t seen more film production here,” Quin muses. “We’ve done such a great job of keeping the set in good shape.”

Arrow Rock State Historic Site Director Cindy Imhoff agrees, “Arrow Rock is definitely ready for a Hallmark Channel Christmas movie.”



**ABOVE:** *Legendary Arrow Rock resident Page Williams provided an important set and played a key role in Tom Sawyer.*

# THE IMPORTANCE OF PLACE

The idea of “Placekeeping” expressed in the following essay is core to the ideals that make Arrow Rock such a unique and attractive locale. Past Friends of Arrow Rock Executive Director Kathy Borgman says, “This reminds me of the goal of our Design Guidelines for changes and new construction, the responsibility of keeping within the character of Arrow Rock.” What do you consider to be the important elements in the uniqueness of Arrow Rock?

We live in a world of rapid and often disorienting change: shifting demographics, new technologies, political polarization, instantaneous communication, changing consumer tastes, gentrification, extreme weather, and the global pandemic are all turning communities upside down. However, if I have learned anything over my 40 years in the community-planning arena, it is this: **change is inevitable, but the destruction of community character and identity is not.** Communities can grow without destroying the places and things people love.

Place is more than just a location or a spot on a map. A sense of place is a unique collection of qualities and characteristics – visual, cultural, natural, and social – that provide meaning to a location. Sense of place is what makes one location (e.g. your hometown) different from another location (e.g. my hometown), but sense of place is also that which makes our physical environment valuable and worth caring about.

Land use planners spend too much time focusing on numbers – the number of units per acre, the number of cars per hour, the number of floors per building – and not enough time focusing on the values, customs, characteristics, and quirks that make a



place special and worth caring about. Unfortunately, many American communities are suffering the social, economic, and environmental consequences that occur when a sense of place is lost. In response, planners, designers, and developers extoll the idea of “placemaking” – the concept of reimagining and reinventing public spaces. And without question, placemaking has played a key role in revitalizing depressed communities and once-dead spaces like the Highline in New York or Millennium Park in Chicago, but at its essence, placemaking is a micro-concept. In today’s rapidly changing world, we need to focus additional time and attention on the concept of “placekeeping.”

Placekeeping is the active care and maintenance of a place and its natural, cultural, and social fabric. This is a macro-concept. It is not just about preserving buildings and landscapes, but

also about keeping the social memories associated with a place alive, while supporting the ability of local people to maintain their way of life.

Today, however, our communities and cultures are being homogenized out of existence. The subtle differences between places are fading and larger regional differences hardly exist. Now if you were suddenly dropped along a road outside of most American cities and towns, you wouldn’t have the slightest idea where you were because it all looks exactly the same: the architectural styles, the building materials, the chain stores, the outdoor advertising, etc.

Today, building materials can be imported from anywhere. Hills can be flattened and streams put in culverts. We can transform the landscape with great speed and build anything that fits our budget or strikes our fancy. Technological innovation and the global economy make it easy for build-

PLACEKEEPING IS THE ACTIVE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF



ing plans drawn up at a corporate headquarters in New Jersey to be applied over and over again in Phoenix, Philadelphia, Portland, or a thousand other communities. Over the past 50 years, America's built environment has progressed from unique to uniform, from stylized to standardized.

Author Wallace Stegner once said, "If you don't know where you are, you don't know who you are." We all need points of reference and orientation. A community's unique identity provides that orientation, while also adding social and economic value to a place. The more one community comes to look and feel just like every other place, the less reason there is to stay, to invest or to visit. Just consider tourism, for example: the more a community becomes just like every other community, the less reason there is to visit. On the other hand, the more a community does to preserve its distinctive identity, whether that is natural, cultural, or architectural, the more reasons there are to visit.

Similarly, when it comes to 21st century economic development, a key concept is "community differentiation." In a global economy where capital is footloose, if you can't differentiate your community or your development from any other, you'll have no competitive advantage. Communities and regions are now in a global competition to attract and retain talented workers. Increasingly, these workers are choosing where they want to live first and then figuring out their job situations later. What's more, research from the Sonoran Institute and others demonstrates that people are willing to sacrifice salary for the ideal community.

To foster a sense of place, communities must plan for built environments and settlement patterns that are uplifting and memorable and that foster a special feeling of belonging and stewardship by residents. A community also nurtures sense of place by understanding and

respecting its natural context, such as rivers and streams, mountains and forests, native flora and fauna, scenic views and vistas along with community landmarks and traditions.

This is what "placekeeping" and by extension the historic preservation movement's approach to community development is all about. It is about helping communities adapt to change while maintaining and enhancing what they value most. It is both a process and a philosophy. The process seeks to engage as many citizens as possible in planning for the future of their neighborhood or community, while also preserving what matters most. The philosophy recognizes that special places, characteristics, and customs have value. Placekeeping is about identifying and preserving the heart and soul of a place. As a wise man once said, "When a community takes the time to get to know itself, it gains a sense of identity and purpose that informs decisions about the future."

Similarly, for me, placekeeping is about asking the question: "Do you want the unique character of your community to shape new development, or do you want new development to shape the character of your community?"

Finally, ask yourself this: why do you think so many people feel a sense of loss like losing a loved one or a friend when a historic building is demolished, a grove of trees cut down, a scenic view obliterated, or a beloved local store replaced by a national chain? It is not because we can't build new buildings, plant new trees, or continue to shop for the things we need, but because our sense of identity and well-being is tied in a very profound way to special buildings, places, views, and traditions.

These are the icons of our daily environment. These places and traditions are invested with rich symbolic importance that contribute to our identity

and sense of belonging in a way no less fundamental than religion, language, or culture. In ancient Rome, there was a maxim that said that "cities should preserve the visible symbols of their identity to give citizens a sense of security in a dangerous world." Two thousand years later, anthropologist Margaret Mead said almost the same thing when she declared that "the destruction of things that are familiar and important causes great anxiety in people."

Economics and environmental quality aside, what we are often really trying to preserve is memory. It is an attempt to keep a mental grip on familiar and accustomed environments that make us feel comfortable and secure. The justification for preserving the uniqueness of place has as much to do with our need for psychological stability and cultural continuity as it has to do with history, ecology, or economics.

The historic buildings, one-of-a-kind neighborhoods, and special landscapes of America are a resource to both the economy and the psychology of our country. We can grow without destroying more of the places that people love. The landscapes and special townscapes of America are worth preserving not just because they are fragile, beautiful, and valuable, but because they are emblematic of what makes America special.

**Ed McMahon** is Chairman Emeritus of Main Street America and the Senior Fellow for Sustainable Development and Charles E. Fraser Chair for Sustainable Development and Environmental Policy at the Urban Land Institute. He is recognized nationally as an inspiring and thought-provoking speaker and a leading authority on topics such as the links between health and the built environment, sustainable development, land conservation, smart growth, and historic preservation.

This article was originally published on [mainstreet.org](http://mainstreet.org) in January 2022 and was reprinted with permission.

# AWAKENING FROM AN EDUCATION HIBERNATION

School Programs and First Saturdays  
Come Back to Arrow Rock

From April 19 to May 27, Friends of Arrow Rock will reinstate its long-popular Arrow Rock School Programs.

“It is an encouraging future with our Elementary School and First Saturday Series Programs being offered again after two years of being on hold,” says Chet Brietweiser, Board of Trustees President, Friends of Arrow Rock. “These much-anticipated and important programs are an essential part of our history education mission.”

## First, Second, Third and Fourth Graders

can experience Family Life and School Days in the 1800s. They’ll visit the log schoolhouse where the schoolteacher will explain readin’, ritin’, and rithmetic while students practice penmanship using quill pens and slates. Proper manners and rules for living are emphasized. Hands-on activities including chores and pastimes will help students envision daily life in the 1830s home of Gunsmith John P. Sites and his wife Nannie.

## IT’S OUR 37TH YEAR

## Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Graders

will learn about the Natural and Cultural History of Arrow Rock on a guided nature hike taking students to the historic Missouri River Landing Trail. Historically this route led Arrow Rock’s visitors and residents to the treasured freshwater spring and stream that still flows into the Missouri River today. They’ll learn about current and historic plant and animal life, and imagine what the river, bluff and forest-lined stream habitats looked like in the 1800s, helping them understand the value and use of the natural resources for Arrow Rock inhabitants and visitors. The program includes a tour of the 1830’s J. Huston Tavern and Mercantile, once a premiere establishment for lodging, meals and supplies, which also served as a backdrop for the paintings of frontier artist George Caleb Bingham. Nature programs are led by the Missouri River Bird Observatory. To learn more about the organization, visit [mrbo.org](http://mrbo.org).

Arrow Rock School Programs meet Missouri Social Study Standards for all grade school levels.

LEARN

## — HOW TO REGISTER —

Call 660-837-3330 between the hours of 8AM & 3:30PM Monday–Friday. Programs available Tuesday – Friday only and are scheduled to begin at 9 – 10 a.m. and will last approximately two hours.

### Please have the following info ready when you call:

- Name of school or group attending
- School address, phone number & email address
- Name & contact information for lead teacher or trip organizer
- Choice of program
- Preferred date & alternate date
- Grade level or age group of students
- Number of students, teachers & parents attending
- Time of arrival & departure
- Best time to reach you
- Special information about your class

### Available Dates

April 19—May 27, 2022

### Group Size

- 50 students or fewer per program
- Special arrangements can be made for groups of 50 or more Fee
- \$5.00 for each student & for each adult
- One teacher per class is admitted free
- Limited scholarships are available to offset program cost.

Inquire at 660-837-3330.

### Payment

- Payment should be made on arrival, including the per person fee for additional adults
- Checks payable to Friends of Arrow Rock
- Purchase orders accepted
- Arrow Rock State Historic Site Visitors Center
- Bus parking available

### More information

[www.FriendsofArrowRock.org](http://www.FriendsofArrowRock.org)

### PICNIC LUNCH LOCATIONS

- There are several areas in town to have a picnic lunch. The Bingham Gazebo is behind the George Caleb Bingham House and there are several grassy areas where the students can sit and have lunch.
- A picnic area, shelter house and playground are available in the Arrow Rock State Historic Site Park on a first-come, first-served basis. The shelter house can be reserved for a \$35 fee.

# “FIRST SATURDAY” PRESENTATION SERIES RETURNS

The popular series of presentations, lectures, and performances known as “Arrow Rock First Saturdays” will resume in person on Saturday, April 2, 2022 at the Arrow Rock State Historic Site Audio Visual Room at 10:00 AM. Admission is free, and seating is limited.

## April 2

### WHAT’S IN A NAME?

#### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ARROW ROCK’S NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

Introduced by Friends of Arrow Rock Preservation Consultant Marty Selby and presented by Mark Buechel, Historical Architect with the National Park Service, this noteworthy and fascinating presentation sheds light on the origins of the Arrow Rock Historic District, what qualified the village for that designation, the benefits of that status—and the responsibility we have as citizens and stewards of the village in order to maintain that fragile standing.

## May 7

#### VOICES OF ARROW ROCK—TWO FRIENDS CROSS BARRIERS: HERB TEMPLETON AND E.L. TAYLOR

Based on a story from the 1981 book *Arrow Rock: 20th Century Frontier Town*, this moving piece illuminates the story of a UM journalist as he chronicles the unlikely bond between two retired Arrow Rock citizens of very different social and ethnic backgrounds. A continuation of last year’s highly successful interpretive theatre program, *Voices of Arrow Rock* is sponsored by the Friends of Arrow Rock in partnership with the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre.

## June 4

A presentation by the **Missouri River Bird Observatory (MRBO)**, our beloved non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of birds and their habitats. Details of this program will be announced soon.

## July 2

A **50th Anniversary Panel About *Tom Sawyer***, focused on adapting Twain on stage and screen, in conjunction with a village-wide, weekend-long celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the film shooting in Arrow Rock.

## August 6

**The Missouri River Then (1804) and Now (2022)** What was the Missouri River as seen by Lewis & Clark and other early explorers in contrast to its condition today? What happened in those intervening years, and what is happening now? Presented by retired Arrow Rock State Site Director, author, and historian Mike Dickey.

## September 3

**Sincerely Yours, Laura Ingalls Wilder** Kathleen Boswell explores why Wilder wrote her famous *Little House* series and her life after the last volume. It’s a story of “making do,” as Wilder did, pulling herself up through hard work. Set in 1947, when Wilder was 80 and her husband Almanzo Wilder was still alive, it is an inspiring story for young and old alike.

## October 1

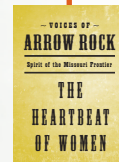
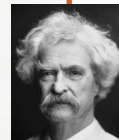
**Voices of Arrow Rock: *The Heartbeat of Women***. Sophia Murrell and Mary, an enslaved woman, share their thoughts, fears, and hopes following the October 12, 1863, Civil War skirmish at Oak Grove Plantation. This unique interpretive theatre program will be performed on the grounds of Oak Grove.

## November 5

**This Place of Promise: A Historian’s Perspective on 200 Years of Missouri History**. Gary Kremer, author and Executive Director of the State Historical Society of Missouri, reflects on how the forces of history—time, place, race, gender, religion, and class—shaped the state of Missouri.

➔ **In December, our efforts will be devoted to the Old-Fashioned Christmas in the Village, on the second Saturday in December, the 10th.** ➔

The Arrow Rock First Saturdays series is presented by the Friends of Arrow Rock in association with the Arrow Rock State Historic Site, to promote the understanding of Missouri history through ongoing education programs and interpretive activities. Between the two organizations, they safeguard 17 historical structures in the National Historic Landmark village of Arrow Rock. Arrow Rock, Missouri, is located 14 miles north of Interstate 70 at exits 89 or 98 on U.S. Highway 41. Event activities, events, and attendees are subject to change.



## THE WORLD OF FOLK ART

### Arrow Rock Symposium Will Highlight the Hand-Made—with a Global Flair



*Flag Gate* Unknown Artist Jefferson County, New York c. 1876 Paint on wood with iron and brass 39 1/2 x 57 x 3 3/4"  
Collection American Folk Art Museum, New York Gift of Herbert Waide Hemphill Jr. in honor of Neal A. Prince, 1962.

Photo by John Parnell

ON SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022,  
THE FRIENDS OF ARROW ROCK WILL HOST  
AN ANTIQUE AND DECORATIVE ART SYMPOSIUM,  
THE WORLD OF FOLK ART.

THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE HELD  
AT THE ARROW ROCK LYCEUM THEATER  
FROM 10:00AM TO 4:00PM.

A NOON LUNCHEON WILL BE SERVED

#### — TICKETS —

Tickets are \$100 for regular admission, which includes the full program and luncheon. A VIP ticket is available for \$150, which includes reserved seating at the theater, luncheon, and a private cocktail party and reception to meet the speakers at the historic Sappington Estate, Prairie Park, hosted by the owners and benefactors, Mr. and Mrs. Whitney E. Kerr Sr.

For more information or reservations, please call the Friends of Arrow Rock Office/1829 Museum Shop at 660-837-3231 or visit [www.friendsofarrowrock.org](http://www.friendsofarrowrock.org)

## AMERICAN FOLK ART MUSEUM IN NEW YORK: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

The American Folk Art Museum (AFAM) is the leading forum in the United States for promoting self-taught art across time and place. Established in 1961 in New York City by a group of avid early American folk art collectors, the Museum has expanded conceptually and physically to include a nationally renowned collection of nearly 10,000 works of art and archives representing self-taught artists on nearly every continent. The diversity of AFAM's collection is reflected in artworks predominantly made in America, yet by artists not necessarily born in this country and with ideas and ideals that span the world.

Decade after decade, AFAM has boldly explored both revered and unconventional topics as exhibitions and educational programs while providing a stage for the work of artists who have come to their skill and trade through their own conviction, creativity, and sourced materials. The identity of the Museum's collection and exhibitions have been formed and reformed over the years by newly-added makers and fresh ideas.

The Museum advocates for those who historically have been sidelined and marginalized from mainstream discussions of art history. As such, AFAM has advanced a truly accessible and democratic art form that results through the personal circumstances of individuals. Through its exhibitions and publications, and now a vibrant virtual sphere online as well as social media, the Museum has literally shaped the perception and scholarship of the field of folk art from the eighteenth century to today.

The American Folk Art Museum is currently celebrating more than 30 years of its location in the Lincoln Square neighborhood of Manhattan and 60 years since its establishment as a museum, with accompanying gifts of art and endowment campaigns as well as facility renovations that will manifest in 2026 as the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary. Speaker Jason T. Busch, Director and CEO of the American Folk Art Museum since 2018, will provide a survey of AFAM from its collections and exhibitions, past to present, with a view to its future and to that of folk art internationally. Through illustrating his talk with a rich assortment of weathervanes, quilts, trade signs, and furniture as well as portraits, paintings, and sculpture by artists such as Ammi Phillips, Asa Ames, and William Edmondson, Mr. Busch will explore the connoisseurship of folk art while weaving together stories of AFAM's development. His keynote provides a deep dive into the nation's museum of folk art and sets the stage for the symposium to explore folk art locally to globally.



**Jason T. Busch**

Director and CEO  
American Folk Art Museum



### WHAT IS FOLK ART?

“Folk art is artistic works, such as paintings, sculpture, basketry, and utensils produced... by untrained, often anonymous artists or by artisans of varying degrees of skill, marked by such attributes as highly decorative design, bright, bold colors, flattened perspective, strong forms in simple arrangements, and immediacy of meaning.”

Folk art may be decorative or utilitarian; it may be used every day or reserved for ceremonies. It is hand-crafted or may include hand-made elements. Folk art encompasses a range of utilitarian and decorative media, including cloth, wood, paper, clay, metal, and more.

Examples of folk art include weathervanes, old store signs, carved figures, portraits by itinerant artists, carousel animals, fire buckets, cast iron door stops, whirligigs, and many other similar lines of highly collectible “whimsical” antiques.

### THE PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE FOUR AUTHORITATIVE PRESENTATIONS BY VISITING EXPERTS:

**JASON T. BUSCH**, Director and CEO of the American Folk Art Museum in New York will be the keynote speaker. Mr. Busch's presentation, in observation of the 60th Anniversary of AFAM, will focus on the cultural importance of American Folk Art, highlighting pieces within the Museum's collection. Prior to directing AFAM, Mr. Busch served as Associate Curator at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Associate Curator at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Chief Curator at the Carnegie Museum of Art, Deputy Director at the Saint Louis Art Museum and Division Director at Sotheby's in New York.

**HALLEY BONE**, Quilt and Quilted Textile Historian, Appraiser, Conservator and Author, will present a program on 19th and early 20th Century Quilts. Mrs. Bone is certified by the American Quilter's Society. Her conservation and repair studies were under the direction of the late Mr. Robert Bishop, Director of the Museum of American Folk Art in New York, now AFAM, in addition to classes at the Saint Louis Art Museum.

**LARK MASON III** will present a program on 18th and 19th Century Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Folk Art. A highly respected specialist in Asian furniture, art, porcelain and decorative arts, Mason comes from a family of devoted historic preservationists. He is the Director of Marketing and Operations for his family auction house, Lark Mason Associates in New Braunfels, Texas, and he and his father, Mr. Lark E. Mason, are seen regularly on the PBS series Antiques Roadshow.

**CHET F. BREITWIESER** will conclude the Symposium with his much-requested program, “Caring for Your Antiques and Heirlooms.” Breitwieser has been in the antique business for more than forty years, is a Member of the Certified Appraisers Guild of America, and Past President of the Mid Missouri Antiques Dealers Association. As a specialist, he was formerly in the Furniture and Decorative Arts Department at Link Auction Galleries in St. Louis; and has the distinct pleasure of working with the Triage Team of Appraisers on Antiques Roadshow.



**ABOVE:** *Bird of Paradise Quilt Top*  
 (1858–1863) Cotton, wool, silk, ink,  
 silk embroidery 84 1/2 x 69 5/8"  
**LEFT:** *Girl in Red Dress with Cat and Dog*  
 Ammi Phillips (1788–1865), 1830–1835  
 Oil on canvas, 30 x 25"  
**RIGHT:** *Phrenological Head*  
 Asa Ames (1823–1851), c. 1850  
 Paint on wood, 16 3/8 x 13 x 7 1/8"  
 Bequest of Jeanette Virgin





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 2023, our 64th 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:**  
Chet F. Breitwieser  
Arrow Rock, Mo & Belleville, IL

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:**  
Kevin T. Riggs  
Marshall, Mo

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:**  
Toni Blackwood, J.D.  
Kansas City, Mo & Arrow Rock, Mo

**Secretary:**  
Mary Keller  
Nelson, Mo

**Treasurer:**  
Jan Hinnah  
Arrow Rock, Mo

**Officers at Large:**

Day Kerr  
Prairie Village, Kan & Arrow Rock, Mo.

Donna Huston  
Marshall, Mo

**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  
Donna Huston 2017-2019

**Trustees**

Doug Anning, J.D.  
Kansas City, Mo & Arrow Rock, Mo

Dan Auman  
Arrow Rock, Mo

Nancy Blossom  
Marshall, Mo

Beth Blumhorst  
Blackwater, Mo

Kathy Cary  
Marshall, Mo

Carol Van Dyke Clift  
St. Louis, Mo

Rockne Corbin  
Columbia, Mo & Arrow Rock, Mo

Mary Fangman  
Marshall, Mo

Thomas B. Hall III, M.D.  
Prairie Village, Kan & Arrow Rock, Mo

Richard M. Hodge, D.D.S.  
Kansas City, Mo & Arrow Rock, Mo

Mary Kay Horner  
Fairway, Kan

Leslie Huston  
Marshall, Mo & Arrow Rock, Mo

Day Kerr  
Prairie Village, Kan & Arrow Rock, Mo

Bill Kruse  
Creve Couer, Mo

Blaine Murrell McBurney, Ph.D.  
New Orleans, La

Debbie Mills  
Marshall, Mo

David Norbury  
Blackwater, Mo

Marc Prigmore  
Kansas City, Mo & Arrow Rock, Mo

Michael C. Reid  
Jefferson City, Mo

Pam Stouffer  
Marshall, Mo

Judy Smith  
Arrow Rock, Mo

Casey Sumner  
Sedalia, Mo

Davoren Tempel  
Leawood, Kan

Greig Thompson  
Harrisburg, Mo

**Trustees Emeritus**

Elizabeth Barrett  
Pat Cooper  
Kathy Digges  
Donald S. Huff, J.D.  
George S. Huff, J.D.  
Carol Pemberton  
V. Paul Ratcliffe  
Bill True

**Executive Director**  
Jeff Kurtti

~ VOICES OF ~  
**ARROW ROCK**  
Spirit of the Missouri Frontier  
**CROSSING BARRIERS**

**A** continuation of last year's highly successful interpretive theatre program, *Voices of Arrow Rock* will present *Two Friends Cross Barriers: Herb Templeton and E.L. Taylor* at 10:00 AM on Saturday May 7, 2022 in the Arrow Rock State Historic Site Audio Visual Room.

Based on a story from the 1981 book *Arrow Rock: 20th Century Frontier Town*, this moving piece illuminates the story of a UM journalist as he chronicles the unlikely bond between two retired Arrow Rock citizens of very different social and ethnic backgrounds.

Sponsored by the Friends of Arrow Rock in partnership with the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre.

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

➡ ~ FRIENDSO FARROW ROCK.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 memorable promenade to the Fourth of July picnic that was used as the advertising icon for Tom Sawyer was filmed on Main Street in Arrow Rock in August of 1972.  
Photo Courtesy of Lanny Patten.