

Bishop Hill Heritage Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Carpenter Building Rededication Ceremony
August 24, 2019

Bishop Hill, IL
February 1, 2020

Mission

Resolution adopted at regular meeting of the Board of Directors, February 10, 1970:

1. Retain Bishop Hill as a living community and do everything within its resources to enhance its development as an historic site and a desirable place to live by maintaining a natural environment.
2. Encourage all efforts to restore historic properties and maintain our cultural heritage.
3. Develop within our young people a sense of pride in their community for its past, present, and future.
4. Develop and maintain an archive and research library of material related to the area and make this available for study.
5. Maintain and encourage an active interchange of ideas with organizations of common interests and goals.



Bishop Hill Heritage Association
Steeple Building, Bishop Hill IL

Hours: April-December Mon-Fri 10-5, Sat 12-4, Sun 1-3
January-March Mon-Fri 10-4

Tel.: 309-927-3899

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bhheritageassociation>

BHHA Annual Report format first created by Brita Butler-Wall

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President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends of Bishop Hill Heritage,

Gott Nytt Ar! Happy New Year!

Another wonderful year has come to an end in Bishop Hill. It has been a year full of activities and experiences.

The highlight of the year was probably the rededication of the Carpenter building. It was a beautiful day with great attendance. Consul General Bruce Karstadt, CEO of The American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis gave an inspiring talk and the children stole the show. As always, the ladies of the board showed their talents as bakers. It was an afternoon to remember.

The special exhibit "Tools and Textiles" was well attended and made it possible to take a number of objects out of storage. There are so many treasures in the archives that we find hard to display them all, a common problem for most museums.

Genealogy plays an important role in the activities of the museum. Cheryl Dowell is the mastermind behind those activities and we are very grateful to her.

The word about Bishop Hill is spreading and it is becoming less of a secret on the Prairie. We want to preserve the originality of the community but we still need the support of our visitors. It is a special balance that we work hard to manage.

The Bishop Hill Heritage is fortunate to have a most dedicated board. I take my hat off to them. They are all listed in this report so when you see them you can give them a big thank you. The same goes for our administrator Todd DeDecker, who is a great asset to Bishop Hill. He is the driving force behind so many of the programs and activities.

All the best for the New Year,

Kerstin Lane
BHHA Board President

Administrator's Report

PROGRAMMING

This past year, the BHHA continued to provide a variety of educational, folk art, and musical programming. Besides our usual annual events, the Heritage continued to create new programming. Listed below are the 2019 events, with the date and location, when applicable. Events that are in italics were ones solely or primarily sponsored by the Heritage:

- *A Local R.R. Bridge and a Railsplitter*; April 6; Dairy Building
- *The History of Baseball*; May 11; Dairy Building
- *Quilt Show and Wheat Weavers*; May 17-19
- *Textiles to Tools exhibition opening*; June 8; Steeple Building
- *Honor Flight Benefit*; June 9; Village Park
- *How Corn Changed Itself and Then Changed Everything Else*; June 15; Dairy Building
- *Rabarber fundraiser and Midsommar Music Festival*; June 22; Village Park
- *Hummingbird Festival, Plein Air Competition, and "Pie at the Steeple" Ice Cream Social*; August 17 and 18
- *Bishop Hill Chautauqua and Carpenter Building Rededication*; August 24; Village Park and Carpenter Building
- *Jordbruksdagarna*; September 28 and 29
- *The Journey to Mollie's War: WACS and WWII Program*; October 12; Dairy Building
- *Civil War Fathers: Sons of the Civil War in World War II*; November 9; Dairy Building
- *Julmarknad and Tim Pletkovich book signing (Fri. only), and Make It/Take It Christmas Ornaments Workshop (Sat. only)*; November 29 and 30, Dec. 1; Steeple Building
- *Julmarknad and Lilly Setterdahl book signing (Sat. only)*; December 7 and 8; Steeple Building
- *Lucia Nights*; December 13 and 14

The BHHA was involved with 15 Bishop Hill events during the past year. Programs of the Bishop Hill Heritage Association were sponsored, in part, by grants from the **Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation** and the **Illinois Arts Council Agency**, a state agency. We also worked closely with the Bishop Hill Arts Council, splitting programming and advertising costs for the various festivals. The Heritage worked diligently with the Bishop Hill State Historic Site on events scheduling as well. In addition, the BHHA Acting Troupe of Deni Menken, Vicki Massie, Jean Combites, and Dianne Lindbom continue to educate the public about Bishop Hill Colony History with their performances. Cheryl Dowell again wrote this year's skit, Dirty Laundry.



Vicki Massie, Jean Combites, Dianne Lindbom

BUILDINGS



Before restoration



After restoration

Carpenter Building

This 1851 structure was purchased by the BHHA in 2016. During Colony times, furniture, wagon frames, implements, and much more were made here. One of the oldest remaining Colony brick buildings in existence, it currently holds the U.S. Post Office and Garden Thyme. The BHHA finished an exterior historic restoration of this structure in 2019. Storm windows will be installed in 2020 to protect the historic windows.



Blacksmith Building

Six blacksmiths worked in this structure during Colony times. Today, the first floor of this 1857 structure is leased by the Prairie Arts Center. Pottery, rugs, and brooms are some of the items being sold by the artisans on this floor. The second floor is currently available to rent.



Cobbler Shop

This 1905 building was used not only as a cobbler shop but later as a coffee shop and gift shop. It is currently the home of The Feathered Nest, a retail store selling items crafted from nature, such as Victorian Lace Eggs, nests, wreaths, and much more.



Colony Store

During Colony times, this structure was a general store for the Colonists and outsiders, with the storekeeper and his family living on the second floor. Today, the Colony Store is the gift shop for the BHHA. Swedish foods, Dala horses, Lucias, Tomte, and locally made items are sold in this 1853 Colony Building.



Dairy Building

The 1855 Dairy Building was the dairy processing center for the Colony. Today, it hosts meetings, concerts, bridal showers, reunions, and other programs throughout the year and is available for event rental in 2019. The south apartment continues to be rented. The beautiful second floor is available for rent as an office space, workshop, or any other business.



Livery Stable Museum and Ericson Shed

The 1908 Albert Krans Livery Stable continues as a stand-alone museum. In addition, volunteers once again planted historic crop next to the Livery Stable. The broomcorn, flax, and sorghum from these fields were used for demonstrations.



Spets Stuga

This property, located south of the Dairy Building, was acquired in 2017. It has been converted to an early 1900's children's playhouse that was first opened to the public in September 2018. Its operating days are from April to October.



Steeple Building

The 1854 Steeple Building Museum was initially used as a school, offices, and living quarters for the Colonists. Today, it is the main museum, archives, and offices for the BHHA.

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Collections

BHHA has a repository of artifacts on the third floor of the Steeple Building (not open to the public). People from all over the United States donate items from Bishop Hill's past. A wooden bench and a Bishop Hill Colony Bible Table were just a couple of the artifacts that were donated to the Heritage in 2019. We greatly appreciate all of these donations!

Genealogy and Bishop Hill Colony Research

The BHHA had over 35 research requests concerning genealogy and Bishop Hill Colony history. Archivist Cheryl Dowell answered many of these requests and also maintains the genealogy files for the Heritage. In addition, high-resolution photographs are being made of our genealogy materials for preservation purposes, courtesy of Bob Nelson.

Archives

The scanning of historic documents and the accessioning of artifacts are ongoing. The first and second floor archives (open by appointment only) house an extensive collection of Colony documents, letters by and interviews with former colonists, obituaries, secondary sources, family genealogical information, news accounts, maps, scholarly reports and articles, unpublished manuscripts, post-Colony pamphlets, and photographs. The third floor houses a collection of books relating to Swedish and Swedish-American culture (not open to the public).

EDUCATION

Exhibits

Three temporary exhibits were displayed in the Steeple Building Museum this year.

The May *Quilt Show Exhibit* was as popular as always. This year's theme was "Yule, YoYo, and Yardage." The Illinois Association of Wheat Weavers demonstrated at the museum. The Quilt Show Challenge Quilts were displayed again in the Steeple Building.



The Steeple Building Museum's summer exhibit was *Textiles to Tools: Their Impact on 19th Century Bishop Hill*. This BHHA-created exhibit displays 19th century tools, textiles, and the Bishop Hill Colonists who used them.



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Swedish Christmas Traditions” was again the theme for the winter holiday exhibit in the Steeple Building. This exhibit briefly described some of the Swedish customs and legends associated with the holiday season. As always, the display also included a working model railroad set.



Visitors also enjoy the permanent exhibits on the first and second floors, complete with Colony furniture, copperware, tools, and much more.

Museum Visitorship

Visitor count is based on the Livery Stable guest book and the counter system at the Steeple Building. It does **not** include the number of guests who visited the Spets Stuga. These figures also reflect the **minimum** number that visited each museum.

- Steeple Building Museum: 5,349
- Krans Livery Stable Museum: 115

School Groups

BHHA hosted 9 scheduled school tours, totaling 479 guests. These numbers do not include classes brought to Bishop Hill by their schools on impromptu field trips.

- Gapp Gruppe
- Rivers Edge Home School Friends
- Winola Elementary
- C.R. Hanna Elementary
- Princeville Elementary

- Sherrard Elementary
- Countryside Private School
- Erie High School Photography Class Tour
- Rock Island High School Functional Program

Tours

In 2019, BHHA hosted 8 adult tour groups for a total of 221 visitors:

- American Daughters of Sweden
- Colony Club
- Hughes Family
- The Kensington
- Overlook Village
- American Classic
- Andersen Tour
- Springfield Tour

Crafts

In 2019, BHHA provided demonstrations throughout the year such as the following: spinning, weaving, triangular loom weaving, butter making, woodcarving, broom making, rope-making, and blacksmithing.

Also, in November, the BHHA organized a Christmas tree ornament workshops. Over 20 children made and took home several different types of Christmas tree ornaments.

Concerts and Programs

As part of our educational programming, the Heritage organized and hosted a variety of programs throughout the year in the Dairy Building. Some of these programs were about the history of Baseball, WACS, and Civil War Fathers.



The Heritage also hosted book signings by Tim Pletkovich and Lilly Setterdahl in the Steeple Building.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers keep the BHHA running – helping with programs/workshops, working at the front desk, creating displays, painting, cleaning, performing maintenance duties, fundraising activities, working on membership, and so much more. Without the assistance of the volunteers, many of the BHHA's activities would not be possible.

BHHA volunteers worked at least 2,783 hours in 2019. The BHHA greatly appreciate all the time and hard work provided by over fifty volunteers!



V.I.P. EVENTS

The BHHA is always pleased to host special events in Bishop Hill. In June 2019, U.S. Representative Cheri Bustos returned to Bishop Hill. She last visited us in 2015. On this trip, we had lunch at the Bishop Hill Bakery, toured local businesses, and visited the Colony Church. The BHHA always appreciate her strong support!



On Saturday August 24, the Bishop Hill Heritage Association rededicated the 1851 Carpenter Building, after completing a nearly \$600,000 historic exterior restoration project on this Colony structure. Several people, including Bruce Karstadt, President/CEO of the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis and Honorary Consul General of Sweden for Minnesota, made presentations. Local children also portrayed Bishop Hill Colonists. BHHA volunteers served light refreshments, with music provided by Hammer and Pick. Over 130 people attended the rededication ceremony.



OPERATIONS

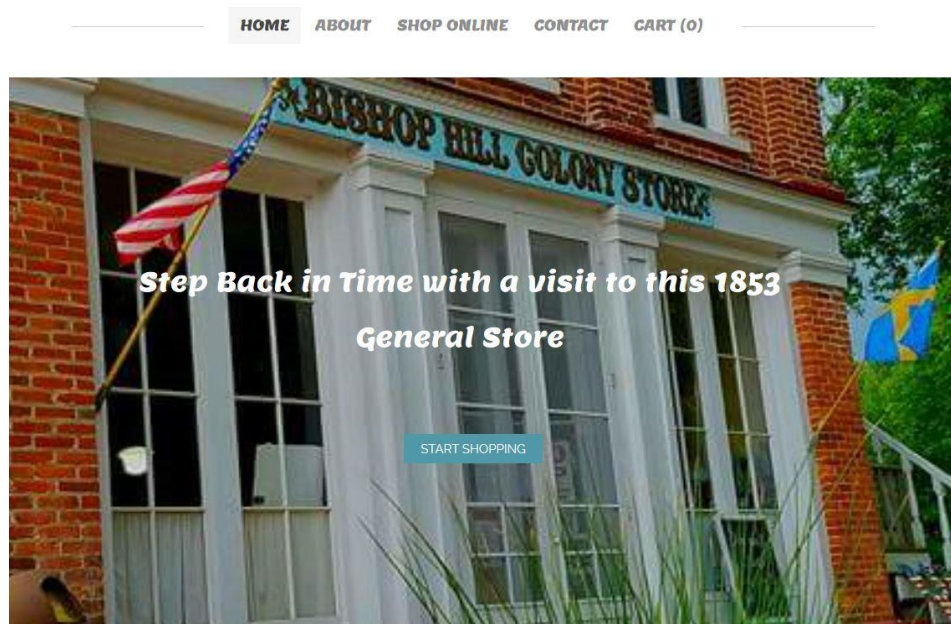
COMMUNICATIONS

BHHA published the *Newsbulletin* twice this year. Press releases, radio and TV interviews, advertisements, announcements, and articles have generated publicity for BHHA in the following outlets this past year:

Internet

For our BHHA website (www.bishophillheritage.org) over 12,300 people visited our website from 9 different nations in 2019. The Bishop Hill Heritage Association also has its own Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bhheritageassociation>. By the end of the year, it has over 1,100 Followers and growing. The Colony Store has its own online store at www.bishophillcolonystoreb.com/.

THE BISHOP HILL COLONY STORE



BHHA and Bishop Hill events were publicized on the following websites: starcourier.com, wgil.com, regionaldailynews.com, visithenrycounty.com, peoria.org, visitquadcities.com, qconline.com, and whrl.net. Emails announcing special events were sent to BHHA members and past guests.

Radio

WKEL, WJRE, KQCJ, WZOE, WVIK, WRHL, WAAG, and WGIL

Television

KWQC-TV Channel 6 (Davenport, IA), WQAD-TV Channel 8 (Moline, IL), and WHBF-TV Channel 4 (Rock Island, IL).

Newspapers

<i>Henry County Advertiser</i>	<i>Henry County Republic</i>	<i>Prairie News</i>
<i>Galesburg Register-Mail</i>	<i>Rock Island Argus</i>	<i>Quad City Times</i>
<i>Kewanee Star-Courier</i>	<i>Peoria Journal-Star</i>	<i>Daily Dispatch</i>

As well as many other Midwestern newspapers and several in Sweden.

In addition, Cheryl Dowell has a regular column in the *Bishop Hill Sällskapet's* (Society) *Bulletin* in Sweden.

MEMBERSHIP

This past year, the BHHA received over \$16,400 in dues and renewals. BHHA currently has over **520 members** registered, of which over 30 are institutions such as museums, colleges, and local organizations. Members come from over 30 different states, including all corners of the country—Oregon, California, Florida and Maine, as well as members from Sweden. At least 80% of our members reside in Illinois.



Colony Store Manager's Report: That's a Wrap on 2019

To say last year started off rough for the Colony Store is to put it mildly. Winter of 2019 the Colony Store had a record amount of closed snow days, which put quite a damper on our sales for the Spring quarter. It's all about the weather in Bishop Hill I've been told on more than one occasion since I started here in 2015.

Spring welcomed new clerks Maranda and Jen to the Colony Store. We love the additional spark they have added to the Colony Store. The seasons pass so quickly at the Colony Store that we continually update our Website and Facebook pages for our customers near and far (Twitter & Instagram 2020?). Remember we ship anywhere in the United States, just give us a call at the Store at 309 927-3596.

The Fall & Holiday season put us right back where we wanted to be with incredible sales during all event weekends in November and December. Both those months were record breaking for the weather and for the Store. Thank you to all our loyal customers!

Also, thank you to my staff and all the volunteers who are tirelessly devoted to Bishop Hill and the Colony Store. Cathleen, Ronda, Jen, Maranda, and Lisa, our newest clerk, are all such troopers, always willing to go above and beyond to make every event day the best it can be for our customers. Our volunteers are always ready to pitch in when needed.

The Colony Store is continually looking to fill the store with Swedish merchandise. I always welcome suggestions on what you would like to have at the Colony Store. Please contact me at my store email (bhcolonystore@gmail.com) with your ideas. We're looking forward to a great 2020 and beyond!

PEOPLE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The BHHA Board meets bi-monthly to do planning and oversee the work of the staff.

President Kerstin Lane, Glenview IL

Kerstin was the founding executive director for the Swedish American Museum, Chicago from 1986-2006. She was also appointed Honorary Consul General for Sweden in 2003. Kerstin is active on a number of boards: SWEA, Center for Scandinavia Studies at North Park University, and the Swedish American Historical Society. In 2007, Kerstin was presented with the Swedish Order of the Seraphim medal by King Carl XVI Gustaf at an awards ceremony in Stockholm. In 2011, she was named Swedish American of the Year by the VASA Order of America. Kerstin Lane and husband, Joseph Lane, have three children and seven grandchildren.

Vice President Bette Themanson Kewanee, IL

Bette and husband, Jim, lives in Kewanee, IL. She is a retired registered nurse having worked at Kewanee Hospital, Proctor Hospital and United Healthcare. Bette graduated from Black Hawk College and Western Illinois University. Bette and Jim have 3 children and 6 grandchildren. She is also Co-President of the Freedom House Board of Directors. She enjoys her family, friends, golf, reading and cooking.

Treasurer Vicki Massie Dahinda, IL

A legal assistant at Massie & Quick Law Office, Vicki also serves as Treasurer of Xi Kappa Gamma sorority (Beta Sigma Phi) and was past President of the Galva Rotary Club. Of Swedish descent, Vicki lived in Bishop Hill from 1968 through 1978 when she married her husband Mike and moved 20 miles south. A graduate of Knox College, she works in Galva and spends a lot of time in Bishop Hill. She also enjoys spending time with her five children and nine grandchildren and traveling.

Secretary Cheryl Wexell Dowell Bishop Hill, IL

Cheryl is a Bishop Hill Colony descendant of ancestors from Halsingland, Sweden. Her Great Great Grandmother, with a clan of about 13, arrived in Bishop Hill with the first Bishop Hill Colonists on the brig, The Charlotta, under the leadership of her great uncle, Jonas Olsson.

Campbell Center, Mt. Carroll, provided courses that trained Cheryl in historic landscaping, historic furniture restoration, archival photography, conservation techniques for artifacts and textiles. She worked at the Bishop Hill State Historic Site for 28 years from which she retired as Assistant Site Manager. At the State Site she trained under Historians Ron Nelson and Martha Downey. In those years she was responsible for the State Site artifact and archival collections while creating a genealogy research source for Bishop Hill Colonists. Upon volunteering at the BHHA, Cheryl continued to enhance the BHHA genealogy program and answers genealogy requests.

The State Site's Live-In program for grade school children was created and put into action in 1980 under Cheryl's guidance. She also developed a "One Room School" program for children, presented at the Colony School, sponsored by the BH Old Settlers' Association. The Bishop Hill Society at Biskopsulla, Sweden, chose Cheryl to receive the Olov Isaksson award in 2008. That

award is given annually to a person that has helped bridge relationships between the two countries.

At this time, Cheryl serves on the BHHA board, a member of the Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church, the Bishop Hill Old Settlers' Association and is the BHOSA Secretary. In 1996 at the time of Their Majesties, King Carl Gustav XVI and Queen Silvia's visit to Bishop Hill's sesquicentennial, Cheryl was serving as BHOSA President and was hostess to the Royal couple.

Cheryl has always lived in Bishop Hill with the exception of her first three years when her parents farmed near Ulah, Illinois. She has traveled to Sweden twelve times and is an avid collector of Swedish glass and other 1850 items for the Swedish Stuga (Cottage) on her property.

Vicki Rabas, Bishop Hill IL

Vicki is a Colony descendant and pretty much a life-long resident of the village. She and her husband Mike have lived in Bishop Hill since 1989 and raised their two children here. Her family has contributed countless hours to volunteer activities in Bishop Hill. Vicki also is a member of the Old Settler's Association and has served as its secretary in the past. She is a regular volunteer at the Galva Food Pantry. After 39 and a half years as a registered nurse, Vicki retired from OSF St Luke's Medical Center's Surgery Department in December 2018. Vicki enjoys traveling, and especially her trips to Sweden. Gardening and antiquing are some of the activities that she enjoys in her spare time.

Deni Menken, Bishop Hill IL

Retired from Country Financial after 27 years as a Sr. Lease Rep. Moved to Bishop Hill 7 years ago from Bloomington, IL. Member of the BHHA, VASA, and the First United Methodist Church of Bishop Hill. Regular volunteer in town activities. Deni and her husband Eldon have 6 grown children and 10 grandchildren.

Bill Owens, Galva IL

Bill is retired after 36 years in education. He taught for 8 years before taking a college administrative position at a small private college. After that, he was an elementary principal and high school principal and then became superintendent of schools. He served as a superintendent for 19 years, eleven of which were at Galva CUSD #224, which includes Bishop Hill, and the remaining 8 were in Ottawa and Wethersfield (located in Kewanee) Districts. He enjoys traveling, reading, sports, and spending time with his wife, Linda, their two children and four grandchildren.

Jim Asplund, Oneida IL

Jim was born and raised on a farm near Oneida, IL. Following graduation from ROVA H.S. and Monmouth College, he served with the U.S. Army in Japan. After discharge and brief employment in Chicago, he worked for 35 years in Human Resources for Butler Manufacturing, working primarily out of Galesburg as the Plant Personnel Manager. He also served as the Company's Corporate Labor Relations Manager for the Company's 14 domestic and 2 Canadian plants. Since retirement, Jim and his wife Wanda have enjoyed spending time with their 3 children and 6 grandchildren, plus traveling to Europe multiple times, including a visit to Smaland, the province of his grandparents. Jim has recently served on the boards of the Ontario

Township, Faith Lutheran Church, Oneida Cemetery Association and the Oneida-Wataga Fire and Ambulance Districts.

Warren Schulz, Bishop Hill IL

Bishop Hill resident, Warren Schulz, spent his youth in Varna, Illinois. He attended Western Illinois University and graduated with a degree in Agricultural Education. After teaching for several years, Warren was then employed by Eagle Enterprises. At that time, through being exposed to recycling methods, he was able to help many schools with thousands of dollars for needed items.

Warren is a member of the local VASA Lodge, the Galva First United Methodist Church, Galva Lion's Club, and is a diligent volunteer for the BHHA. He has served as BHHA President in the past and has been a member of the Building Committee for several years. Warren's long-time passion is bowling and has participated in leagues in Galva and Kewanee. He still loves his farming roots and helps farmer friends with the harvest each year.

Warren and his wife, Sue, have a son, Dr. Steven Schulz, living in New York. Steven and his wife, Narina, have provided Warren and Sue with their first grandchild, Cullen.

Lou Lourdeau, Bishop Hill IL

Lou and his wife Janene moved to Bishop Hill from Kewanee in 2011. Lou retired from Walgreens. He enjoys photography, gardening, growing bonsai and traveling. He also enjoys doing community service in Bishop Hill.

Jane Tornquist, Kewanee IL

Jane's deceased husband Richard previously served on the Board and as President. She volunteers at the Steeple Building and Kewanee Hospital Gift Shop. She served on the Henry/Stark Cancer Board and volunteers for Relay of Life. Jane is also treasurer of Area Church Fellowship.

Jane graduated from Galesburg High School and attended Iowa State and Knox College. She is a member of St. John Paul II Parish. Also, she is a member of the Altar and Rosary Society and the Catholic Book Club. Jane enjoys traveling abroad and especially visiting her Swedish relatives. She has four children, eight grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

Bill Craig, Galva IL

Bill is a lifelong resident of Galva, IL. He has always taken an interest in the history of the Galva/Bishop Hill communities. He attended school in Galva, and then continued his education at Illinois State University, graduating with a degree in Construction Management. He is currently employed at Menard's in Kewanee, in management. He and his wife Kristi live in Galva where they are both involved with church activities at Galva 1st UMC, plus they also assist when they have time, with Galva: Ready, Set, Grow, which works for the betterment of Galva.

Jean Combites, Moline IL

My ancestors on the Olson side were some of the original Colonists. My Great-Grandmother was Mary Malmgren Olson, the first child born in the Colony. She was born in a dug-out that first winter of 1846, just a few months after they left Sweden! Andrew Arnquist came with his family in 1870 and established the Arnquist General Store.

Both of my parents, Howard Sundberg and Mildred Olson Sundberg, were born and raised in the Bishop Hill/Galva area. I spent summers staying and playing at Grandma and Grandpa Olson's farm south of Bishop Hill. I even rode horses through the park before the fence was put up!

I grew up in Geneseo, graduated from GHS, University of Iowa, and taught in Rock Island, Chicago suburbs, and the last 24 years in Cambridge. I retired in 2007. After raising our two sons, and living in Orion for 40 years, we moved to a condo in Moline in 2014.

Many aunts, uncles, and cousins grew up in Bishop Hill and were teachers, carpenters, shop keepers, and farmers. I'm especially proud of the importance and value my Swedish ancestors put on education, especially for women, so many years ago! I've always felt that Sweden is "ahead of the times" in so many areas, and I'm proud to say, "I'm Swedish"!

John Asplund, Oneida IL

John earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Augustana College. After teaching in Ecuador and working briefly in Minneapolis, he moved home and earned his teaching degree from Monmouth College. He began his education career as an English teacher and coach at Knoxville High School. John later earned his Master of Science and Education Specialist Degrees from Western Illinois University and his Doctor of Education degree from Illinois State University. He has been a school administrator in several districts throughout the state of Illinois. He is currently the Superintendent of Schools at Galesburg District 205. John and his wife Julie are the proud parents of Isaac, Eli, and Clara.

Jim Nolan, Bishop Hill IL

Jim worked 50 years as a union carpenter. He also retired from 20 years of police work in Arizona. When his wife retired, they moved to Galva IL. Later, Jim moved to Bishop Hill when his wife passed away. He continues woodworking today and enjoys rehabbing antiques.

STAFF

Todd DeDecker, Administrator

Todd DeDecker became the administrator for the Heritage during the summer of 2012. He was raised in Henry County, graduating from Cambridge High School. After college graduation, he taught secondary social studies for sixteen years in southeast and south-central Iowa. Todd also earned a Master's Degree in Museum Studies from Western Illinois University and worked at several museums. He has two daughters who live in Kitchener, Ontario. During the summer of 2018, Todd married Janna Miller of Colona, IL.

Glenda Wallace, Colony Store Manager

Glenda Wallace was hired in June of 2015. Glenda graduated from Kewanee High School, Black Hawk East College and the American Institute of Commerce in Davenport IA with a certificate in Fashion Merchandising. Glenda has 35 years of retail management experience. She previously managed Chess King/Merry Go Round for 10 years, then 18.5 years with Target Corporation. Glenda is married to Mike Wallace who is a painter at Martin Engineering in Neponset, IL. Glenda and Mike have one son, Nicholas Wallace, who currently resides in Spring Hill, FL where he works for Verizon. Glenda's hobbies, when not at the Colony Store, are woodworking, painting, traveling, fishing, and spoiling her rescue Brewster!

Allies and Supporters

LOCAL

- Bishop Hill Arts Council
- Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church
- Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association
- Bishop Hill State Historic Site
- Bishop Hill Village Board
- Bishop Hill Volunteer Firemen
- Henry County Historical Society
- Prairie Queen Quilt Guild
- VASA Order of America
- Bishop Hill businesses

MUSEUMS

- Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Bishop Hill State Historic Site
- American Swedish Historical Museum, Philadelphia, PA
- American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis MN
- Nordic Heritage Museum, Seattle WA
- Norwegian American Museum, Decorah, IA
- Swedish American Museum Center, Chicago, IL

HISTORICAL

- Andover Tourism Council-Historical Society, Andover IL
- Communal Studies Association, Amana, IA
- Galva Public Library, Galva IL
- Northern Illinois Historic League, Crystal Lake IL
- Illinois Heritage Association, Champaign, IL
- Illinois State Historical Society, Springfield IL
- Illinois Association of Museums, Springfield IL
- Kewanee Historical Society, Kewanee IL
- Lindstrom Historical Society, Lindstrom, MN
- Swedish American Historical Society, Chicago, IL
- Swedish Heritage Society, Swedesburg, IA
- The Swedish Historical Society, Rockford, IL
- Cambridge Historical Society, Cambridge IL

TOURISM

- Galesburg Visitors Bureau, Galesburg, IL
- Henry County Tourism Bureau
- Western Illinois Tourism, Macomb, IL
- Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Quad Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau

ACADEMIC

- Augustana College
- Black Hawk College
- Concordia College
- Gustavus Adolphus College
- Knox College
- Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College
- Univ. of Southern Indiana Center of Communal Studies, Evansville, IN
- North Park University

CULTURAL AND CIVIC

- American Daughters of Sweden, Chicago, IL
- American Scandinavian Association, Moline, IL
- Dalesburg Scandinavian Association, Vermillion, SD
- Galva Lion's Club, Galva IL
- Illinois Arts Council
- Illinois Humanities Council, Chicago, IL
- Swedish Club Foundation, Lake Forest, IL
- Swedish Council of America, Minneapolis, MN
- Swedish Women's Educational Association (SWEA) Chicago
- Vasa Lodge #683, Bishop Hill, IL
- Vasa Brage Lodge #29, Germantown Hills, IL
- Vasa Lodge Jubilee #692, DeLand, FL
- Svithiod Verdandi #3, Chicago, IL
- Svithiod Hall of Peoria County, Peoria, IL

GENEALOGICAL

- Henry County Genealogical Society
- Bishop Hill State Historic Site
- Knox County Genealogical Society, Galesburg, IL

SWEDISH

- Bishop Hill Sällskapet, Biskopskulla, Sweden
- Consulate General of Sweden, Chicago, IL
- Embassy of Sweden, Washington, DC
- Emigrantinstitutet, Växjö, Sweden
- HRM Carl XVI Gustaf, King of Sweden
- Migranernas Hus, Alfta, Sweden

FINANCES

The Bishop Hill Heritage Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization registered in the State of Illinois. Members have the opportunity to review the annual report, with a summary of financial information, in February and review results of the internal audit later in the fall.

INCOME

BHHA strives for a diverse income stream. Ongoing sources include Colony Store sales and smaller sales, annual membership dues, admissions, rentals, and fundraising events in Bishop Hill. Memorials are also much appreciated. Grants continue to be a major source of funding. The following is an overview of **some** of the Heritage's major income sources.

Membership Dues

New Members and Renewals resulted in \$16,876.05

Admission

Museum Admissions and Donations totaled \$19,063.59

Tour Groups

Income from adult and school tour groups totaled \$1,427.99

Fundraising Events

Fundraising events brought in \$2,792.76 and included the following: *Rabarber fundraiser at Midsommar Music Festival*, *Pie at the Steeple* in August, *Bishop Hill Official Walking Tour booklet*, *Faces of Utopia*, and other activities.

Grants

- Galesburg Community Foundation-\$250 for Bishop Hill Chautauqua
- Illinois Arts Council Agency- Part of the \$15,700 grant went for Julmarknad and Lucia Nights
- Leader Change Illinois-\$1,000 for social media promotion of Bishop Hill
- Bill and Susan Sherrard Foundation-\$1,000 for educational programming.
- Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation -\$5,500 grant for educational programming and festivals
- SWEA Chicago-\$600 for Jordbruksdagarna
- Swedish Council of America-\$600 for the Textiles to Tools exhibition

Carpenter Shop Project Fundraising

The BHHA Fundraising Committee created the successful *Adopt a Window & Hod of Bricks* campaign for this project. Through window/hod of bricks adoptions, memorials, donations, bequests, and grants, a total of \$316,005.72 was raised for the 1851 Carpenter Shop Exterior Restoration Project. Donors to this project are listed on the following pages.

EXPENSES

In 2019, the bulk of BHHA spending involved repair and restoration of the Colony buildings. The second largest expense was for operations staff; BHHA has 1 full-time employee, a part-time store manager, and several part-time store clerks. The education programming, exhibits, and archives constitute smaller expenses. To save costs, BHHA relies on volunteers for custodial and grounds work and many other tasks. BHHA also collaborates with other organizations to co-sponsor events and share publicity.

HISTORY

In the summer of 1961, the village of Bishop Hill demolished the abandoned Colony Bakery/Brewery building, which had partially collapsed. This was the catalyst that led to the formation of the Bishop Hill Heritage Association (BHHA) in the fall of 1962. A small group of descendants met to preserve the rich history of the Bishop Hill Colonists and began to acquire threatened Colony buildings. The founders were: Ron Nelson (President), John W. Bogren (V.P.), Merrill Nystrom (Secretary), Berenice Florine (Treasurer), Janet Nystrom, Frieda Boland, Mrs. William Henry, Gilbert Swanson, George Swank, Reynolds Everett, Sr., and Sam Mendel.

The following is a brief timeline of the major building acquisitions of the Heritage:

-  1963 – Steeple Building; BHHA museum, offices, and archives.
-  1966 –Colony Blacksmith Shop; houses craftspeople, artisans, and shops.
-  1969 –Colony Store; now the BHHA gift shop, a major source of renovation revenue.
-  1971 –Cobbler Shop, now a gift shop.
-  1976 –Colony Hospital (now in private ownership)
-  1976 –Poppy Barn (now in private ownership)
-  1985 –Colony Dairy Building; BHHA education center
-  1987 –Colony Apartment House (now in private ownership)
-  2011 –Albert Krans Livery Stable; second BHHA museum.
-  2016 –Colony Carpenter Shop; now a gift shop and U.S. Post Office
-  2017- Spets Stuga; children pioneer playhouse



DONORS FOR THE 1851 CARPENTER SHOP EXTERIOR RESTORATION PROJECT

Gil and Roberta Achterhof (2 hods of bricks)
American Daughters of Sweden
Barbara and Richard Andersen estate (285 hods of bricks)
Roger and Judith Anderson (2 hods of bricks)
Jim and Wanda Asplund
Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association
Ann and William Barnes
Mary Bjorling
Carol and Duane Curry
Ella and Frank Davison
A. Faith DeDecker
Cheryl Dowell
Greg and Emily Dowell
William and Judith Eaton
Gerald and Carol Erickson
Faye Ferguson
Doris Friend (3 hods of bricks)
Marlene Grover
Barbara Glick (2 hods of bricks)
Linda Holden estate (126 hods of bricks)
David Johnston (35 hods of bricks)
Janet and Stephen Kenyon, in memory of Wayne Troline (5 hods of bricks)
Joe and Kerstin Lane (2 hods of bricks)
Dianne and Ron Lindbom
Stephen Lindbom
Mike and Vicki Massie (10 hods of bricks)
Deni and Eldon Menken
Harlan and Sally Nelson
Morris Nelson estate (10 hods of bricks)
Robert Olson estate
Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation (225 hods of bricks)
M. Carolyn Ossian
Bill and Linda Owens (2 hods of bricks)
Judith Roe
John Sederwall
Gerd and Bengt Sjogren
Stiftelsen Konung Gustaf VI Adolfs Fond for Svensk Kultur (10 hods of bricks)
Independent Order of Svithiod
Svithiod Hall of Peoria County (15 hods of bricks)
Don and Marlene Talbot
Bette and James Themanson (2 hods of bricks)
Evelyn Troline
VASA National Archives
Verdandi Lodge, No. 3 (17 hods of bricks)
Andrea Vitale
Gary and Dawn Wexell
Barbara Weedman (2 hods of bricks)
Xi Kappa Gamma X Beta Sigma Phi (2 hods of bricks)
Mary Yarger (5 hods of bricks)



DONORS FOR THE 1851 CARPENTER SHOP EXTERIOR RESTORATION PROJECT

Gil and Roberta Achterhof (3 windows)
Ameren Illinois (5 windows)
American Daughters of Sweden
Barbara and Richard Andersen estate (3 windows)
Charles Andersen
Carolyn Anderson
Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association (2 windows)
Mary Bjorling
Richard Carlson
In memory of Charles and Verna Colmark
Cheryl Dowell
Greg and Emily Dowell (2 windows)
Coralyn Duhlstine, in memory of Ione C. Berg
Mary Erickson (3 windows)
Dorothy Ericson
S. Robert and Mardee Gramen
Patricia Hallbick, in memory of Wilma Florine Hallbick (2 windows)
Linda Holden estate (50 windows)
Richard and Lillemor Horngren (2 windows)
David Johnston (11 windows)
Janet and Stephen Kenyon, in memory of Wayne Troline (3 windows)
Landmarks Illinois (5 windows)
Christopher Lane
Joe and Kerstin Lane (6 windows)
Lou and Janene Lourdeau
Lori and Kerry Maloney, in memory of Wayne Troline
Mike and Vicki Massie (19 windows)
Morris Nelson estate (6 windows)
John H. Nelson
Sarah Nordstrom Nelson
E. Irene Nordstrom
Wade and Elaine Nystrom
Robert Olson estate (9 windows)
Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation (50 windows)
H. Joan Pardieck (2 windows)
Mike and Vicki Rabas
Marsha Royster (8 windows)
Stiftelsen Konung Gustaf VI Adolfs Fond for Svensk kultur (40 windows)
Svithiod Hall of Peoria County (14 windows)
Roger Spiegel estate
Philip St. John (2 windows)
Jane Tornquist
Verdandi Lodge, No. 3 (18 windows)
Bob VerHeecke
David Wall and Brita Butler Wall, in memory of Janice Florine Butler
Walter Weedman
Steven Westerlund
Carl Wexell, in memory of wife Lois Wexell (4 windows)
Xi Kappa Gamma X Beta Sigma Phi
Mary Yarger (2 windows)

Make a Difference

*Help preserve the unique and rich architectural and cultural heritage
of Bishop Hill*

Make a Donation...

Mail a check to PO Box 92, Bishop Hill IL 61419
Make BHHA part of your estate planning
Give gift memberships to family and friends
Ask your employer about corporate matching funds
Make a donation in memory of a loved one
Donate family documents or artifacts



Volunteer to Help

Clerical work or installing exhibits
Fund-raising events
Town festivals
Greeting visitors or guiding tours
Maintenance, carpentry or grounds-keeping
Publicity or photography
Speaking to groups

BHHA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

A BHHA Membership fee can be as little as \$10, but for \$35 or more you will receive a 10% discount at the Colony Store and workshop discounts. For \$50 or more, you will receive your 10% store discount, workshop discounts, and special Colony Store coupons. Please print your information as you wish it to appear on your membership card.

Printed Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email address _____

Telephone number _____

Make checks payable to the BHHA.

☐

Visa

☐

Mastercard

Exp. Date _____

Card Number _____ CVC or CVV number _____

Signature of cardholder _____ Dollar amount of membership _____