2020-2021

Utopia on the Prairie • Founded 1846

Bishop Hill
ILLINOIS

Expect Enchantment

ILLINOIS ARE YOU UP FOR AMAZING?
Welcome to Bishop Hill, Illinois

Many other ‘historic villages’ one might visit are actually reproductions. They may have done some archeology and built new, or moved a mish-mash of historic structures to an artificial commons. But Bishop Hill is very much the same town you would have seen if you came through in a horse and buggy 160 years ago. It is a living, fully functional village with a mayor and fire department. What makes us unique is that the entire town is a registered historic landmark. The people who live here still farm the surrounding country side, cut firewood for the winter, plant broom corn in the spring, and celebrate the changing of the seasons, just as our Swedish ancestors did. Yes, we do this for the folks who come to participate, but more importantly, we do it because it is our way of living authentically. The crafts and trades that supported our fore-fathers and mothers are still a source of livelihood today. The pottery and brooms you buy are the same ones we use in our kitchens.

Consider yourself invited to come, step into a land of authentic enchantment, and become a part of a living tradition.

Yes, you CAN get here from there. Bishop Hill is...
160 mi from Chicago, IL
217 mi from Des Moines, IA
263 mi from Indianapolis, IN
218 mi from Milwaukee, WI
38 mi from Moline, IL
56 mi from Peoria, IL
224 mi from St. Louis, MO
4374 mi from Sweden.
Sweet Annie’s Spring Open House 10am-3pm | 309-927-3072 April 4

Vasa Exhibit Opening Date subject to change April 10 – 11
Join the Vasa National Archives and Museum as we open our doors for the 2020 season with an Opening Reception for a new exhibit. The new exhibit will highlight some of the Swedish names and history the Vasa Order keeps alive in the US and Canada. Light refreshments available throughout the day.
10am – 4pm 309-927-3898

Bishop Hill Book Fair: A Wild Encounter July 11 – April 4
More than 17 authors will be at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons. Come find something you would love to read. Writing workshops and author talks offered throughout the day. At 5:00 join the Authors Happy Hour and Round Robin Conversations. At 6:00 enjoy a community potluck dinner before the 7:00 concert featuring musicians and authors. For more info email foxtales@foxtalesint.com. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Creative Commons and the Midwest Writing Center. 10am - 9pm

March of the Women October 10 – April 4
Enjoy a one-hour free public concert by hammered dulcimer performer Phil Passen at the Dairy Building. This program consists of songs about women’s suffrage from as early as the mid-nineteenth century through 1920. In addition, the program includes songs from the nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries about the role of women in society, including songs about equal job opportunity, equal work for equal pay, reproductive rights, and other relevant topics. Phil introduces each song with information about the song and its historical context. This is an entertaining and informative look at the fight for women’s right to vote and the continuing fight for women’s rights. This program is hosted by the BHHA and sponsored by the IHC Road Scholars Speaker Bureau. 2pm 309-927-3899

Basket Weaving Workshop April 18
At the Dairy Building from 9-3 learn how to make a spring basket from instructor Linda Simmons. Cost is $25 per person with a max of 10 people for this class. Call 309-927-3008 or email bhha@mymctc.com for more details or to register. Sponsored by BHHA. 9am - 3pm

2020 Swedish Stomp & Skamperoo POSTPONED April 25
Run or walk historic Bishop Hill and the beautiful country roads surrounding us or cheer on friends and family in this 5K event. Starts and finishes at the Colony School. Hosted by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers. 7am registration/ 9am Race

Bring Back Heirloom Fiber Art April 25
Takes place at the Dairy Building. Come see demonstrations and join us with your project at the Dairy Building. Free and open to the public. Call 309-927-3008 for more details. Sponsored by the Prairie Arts Center.
Join us for a relaxing lunch in our Victorian dining room. Choose from many tempting entrees including generous sandwiches served on homemade Swedish rye bread, hot daily specials, savory soups, scrumptious desserts and our famous Swedish Meatballs—now also available Gluten Free!

Open 7 days a week • 309-927-3885

Serving daily starting at 11 a.m. in Bishop Hill, Illinois

Your Home Base for Adventure!

Twinflower Inn
Bed & Breakfast
Bishop Hill, IL

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Colony Store
101 West Main St.
Bishop Hill • 309-927-3596

Step back in time in this 1853 General Store.
Mon-Fri 10–5, Sun 11–5

Shop online at: www.bishophillcolonystoreb.com
Valborg and Wiener Roast  
Experience an ancient Swedish traditional bonfire as we welcome spring’s return. Yard games and activities will be available to the whole family. Hot dogs, buns, coffee, iced tea, and hot chocolate will be provided. This event is free and open to the public. Visitors are encouraged to bring a dish to share. 6pm 309-927-3898

Moments in Lincoln’s Life  
Tom Emery will be doing a free public presentation about Lincoln 2pm at the Dairy Building. This one-hour program is based on Mr. Emery’s release of the same name, which is a compilation of articles on some of the lesser-known experiences of the sixteenth President, with fresh looks on the more famous episodes. The program will cover Lincoln’s pre-presidential life, including his early romances, his work as a surveyor and postmaster, first political campaigns and some of his notable friendships. Other topics will include Lincoln’s law career, how he celebrated Christmas and holiday seasons, and little-known facts about the assassination, as well as a look at Lincoln’s descendants. This program is sponsored by the BHHA. 2pm

Garden Walk Open House at Sweet Annies  10am-3pm  309-927-3072

Mother’s Day Brunch at the Filling Station  309-927-3355

Quilt Show “Elephants, Embroidery, and Eyes “  
A bedazzling display of color will fill the Colony School. Quilts may be antique, miniature, patchwork, appliqué, or something else. Admission is $5.00. Friday & Saturday 10am – 4pm/ Sunday 10am - 3pm Challenge quilts will be at the Steeple Building Museum. Sponsored by the Prairie Queen Quilt Club, Bishop Hill Arts Council, and the Bishop Hill Heritage Association. 309-927-3899

Birding Between Two Rivers  
A weekday adventure during the peak of spring migration! Join storyteller and naturalist, Brian “Fox” Ellis in this well-balanced blend of bird watching and history, culture, and ecology. The all inclusive price covers all meals, lodging at the Twinflower Inn, ground transportation to several internationally significant areas, IBAs, on the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, guide services, and canoe rental. Contact Brian “Fox” Ellis at 309-696-1017 or foxtales@foxtalesint.com to make reservations.

Spoon River Anthology  
Patty Lynn, storyteller, author, actress; Jon Lynn, actor, retired theatre and English teacher and Patti Ecker, singer song writer, multi instrumentalist entertainer. This group will perform poems by Edgar Lee Masters. The poems show life in a small Illinois town through the voices of inhabitants of its cemetery, who reflect upon their experiences from beyond the grave. Masters shared their virtues, vices, conflicts, moral dilemmas and failures. 2pm Henry County Museum

Fairy Tale Ball at Vasa  
All Fairy Tale creatures are welcomed to a party with the Vasa National Archives. The ball will feature crafts, games, a witch’s station, food and music. Attendees are encouraged to wear their Fairy Tale finest. Sensory Sensitive session from 5 to 6:30 for families needing extra considerations. The ball will open to the whole realm at 6:30 and last until 8. Dinner will be served from 6-7. The Ball will be an outdoor event, but indoor arrangements will be made in case the weather witch sends foul weather. There is a $10 attendance fee for Fairy Tale creatures, but parents can come for free. This event is a compliment to the Nordic Fairy Tale exhibit currently on display. Reservations are limited to 60 fairy tale beings, so call or email the Vasa National Archives soon to reserve your spot, 309-927-3898 or VasaArchivist@gmail.com. 5-8pm
Inside Sweet Annies you will find early cupboards & tables, jugs & crocks, quilts & textiles, dried everlastings & hand-poured candles, garden-ware & topiaries, as well as handmades to compliment the season...

Hours:
Thursday - Sunday 11 to 3

201 West Main Street
Bishop Hill, IL 61419

309-927-3072

www.sweetannieprimitives.net
Dancing Queen: An ABBA Salute Concert  
June 6
The Bishop Hill Heritage Association is pleased to announce that an ABBA tribute band will be performing in the Bishop Hill Village Park. Dancing Queen: An ABBA Salute is quite literally the most accurate tribute band on the planet. Sponsored by Community State Bank and the BHHA. 2pm 309-927-3899

Bishop Hill Colony Papers Exhibition  
June 13
At the Steeple Building Museum, the BHHA will be displaying documents from the mid-1800s about various Bishop Hill Colony topics. These papers have NEVER been on public display before. 309-927-3899

Honor Flight Benefit  
June 14
This is a fundraising event for the Honor Flight of the Quad Cities. Enjoy music, an auction, and dinner at the Bishop Hill Village Park. Sponsoring the Filling Station. 3pm – 6pm 309-927-3355

Dan Dauw on World War II  
June 14
A presentation by Dan Dauw at the Henry County Museum with historical tales, artifacts and more on WW II. 2pm

Midsommar Music Festival  
June 20
Join a lively Swedish tradition to celebrate the summer solstice. Free concerts in the Bishop Hill Village Park. A Maypole will be decorated and a procession will ensure delivery to the Colony School. Music from 11-4, May pole decorating and procession at 4, and Barn Dance at 6:00 in the Colony School. Organized by the Bishop Hill Arts Council, Bishop Hill Vasa Lodge #683, BHHA, Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association and the Bishop Hill State Historic Site. 309-927-3899

Midsummer Respite  
June 20
If you get too hot or dry while exploring Bishop Hill during this summer celebration, the Vasa National Archives invites you to take a break and enjoy fika with us. Fika is a Swedish custom of offering visitors a drink and a snack. To help pass the time while you cool off, we have a make-and-take clay sculpture station for you. 10am – 4pm 309-927-3898

Prairie Arts Center Anniversary Celebration  
June 20
Prairie Arts Center is celebrating 15 years of business in Bishop Hill. Serving refreshments.

Basic Woodcarving Workshop  
June 27
At the Dairy Building, learn basic woodcarving techniques from instructor Dennis Carlson. The class has a maximum of 10 participants. Tools will be provided. Call 309-927-3899 or email bhha@mymctc.net for more details and to register. Sponsored by the BHHA and the Illinois Arts Council Agency, a state agency. 9am - 3pm

30th Annual Country Antique Market  
July 11
Quality antiques including primitives, country, folk art, pottery, and much more are available on the lawn of the Colony School. $8.00 admission. Sponsored by Sweet Annie’s Primitives. 9am – 3pm 309-927-3072

Learn to Felt Class  
July 18
This three hour workshop, taught by Lou Hanson of Hantverk Galleri, will teach the basics of wet felting. Using colorful wool roving and decorative elements of sari silk, silk fibers, and specialty yarns, participants will create a sheet of felt that can then be made into bookmarks, coasters, a small change purse, or a cell phone or glasses case. Call 309-927-3899 or email bhha@mymctc.net for more details and to register. This class will be held at the Dairy Building. Sponsored by the BHHA and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. 1pm - 4pm
BISHOP HILL

OLD SETTLERS’ ASSOCIATION

Established in 1896

Celebrate the rich legacy of our founders through cultural events and activities. Join us; we welcome new members!

Rent the Colony School

Perfect for any event or gathering
Full Kitchen • Air-conditioned

Find us on Facebook or at www.bhosa.org
BHOSA / PO Box 68 / Bishop Hill, IL 61419

Augustana College

National archives and library for Swedish-American historical research Publishers of Swedish American Genealogist

639 38th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201-2296
309-794-7204
www.augustana.edu/swenson
Native American Star Stories  
**July 24**  
Join storyteller, Brian “Fox” Ellis and the Quad Cities Astronomy Club for an evening around the campfire at the Twinflower Inn. The evening begins with stories from several tribes that then leads to an opportunity to use these spectacular telescopes to see the beauty of the night sky. Call 309-696-1017 or email foxtales@foxtalesint.com for more info. 7pm - 9pm

Native American Flute Workshop and Concert  
**July 25**  
Award winning flute maker and recording artist, Doug Thunderhorse, will teach an immersive class in the history and traditions of the Native American flute. Each participant will receive a flute as part of the registration fee. Register by calling 309-696-1017 or email foxtales@foxtalesint.com. Doug Thunderhorse will be performing a 7pm concert of his original and traditional tunes. Concert will be at the Bishop Hill Commons.

Antique Car Show  
**July 26**  
Antique and classic car show at the Bishop Hill Village Park. Registration is 9-11:30. Judging is noon -1:30. Awards are presented at 3:00. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers.

2nd Annual Hummingbird Festival  
**August 15-16**  
This festival has been extended for two days which means more music, more hands-on crafts, artist demonstrations, and hummingbird sightings throughout Bishop Hill. Enjoy a dinner theater performance featuring Charles Darwin sharing the fine art of Gould’s Hummingbird Engravings. Email foxtales@foxtalesint.com or call 309-696-1017 for more information. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Creative Commons, Twinflower Inn, and Bishop Hill Arts Council.

Bishop Hill Chautauqua  
**August 22**  
Spend the day with several characters from history including Walt Whitman, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Louisa May Alcott, and Maya Angelou. Join us for a historical re-enactment brought to life through storytelling and music. The theme this year is *Literary Figures*. Free event held in the Bishop Hill Village Park. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association and Twinflower Inn. 309-927-3899

Celebrating 100 Years of Women’s Right to Vote:  
**August 29**  
Influential Illinois Women and the Suffrage Movement  
Angie Snook, curator of the Geneseo Historical Museum will be speaking about the local women suffrage movement. This event is at the Dairy Building. The program is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association. 2pm 309-927-3899

Old Settlers’ Day  
**September 12**  
This event celebrates the 174th anniversary of the Colony and the 124th year of the Old Settlers Association. A traditional chicken dinner is served at 11:30am followed by a band concert at 12:15, and a program featuring Colony descendants at 1:30pm. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association.

Jordbruksdagarna (Agriculture Days)  
**September 26-27**  
Bishop Hill’s biggest event features traditional 19th century demonstrations, harvest activities, music, dancing, farm produce, and Colony Stew made by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association. An event for young and old. 10am – 5pm 309-927-3899

Vasa Butter Making  
Bishop Hill colonists, like many Swedes, were excellent butter and cheese makers. Stop by our booth in the demonstration area to learn about butter making and make your own butter to take home. 309-927-3898
Join us for our 20th Anniversary Celebration!

When: Saturday, April 17th, 7:00 to 11:00
Where: Kewanee Dunes Country Club

- Live music featuring Manny Lopez III & Curtis Hawkins and Friends
- Hors d’œuvres & cash bar
- $20 per person

Contact John Sloan (932-2413) or Nancy Anderson (932-3437) for more information.

• Tickets available at the Galva Pharmacy
• Reservations must be received by March 27, 2010

Join us in supporting local arts...

* Coffeehouse Series & Open Mic
* Galva Ol’ Fashion Christmas Festival
* Levitt AMP Galva Concert Series
* Garden Walk
* Holiday Tour of Lights
* Annual Photo Show
* John Sloan July Coffeehouse
* Arts and Crafts Classes
* Scholarships

For more information or to become a member visit our Facebook page or www.galvaartscouncil.org.

Free, family-friendly concerts
EVERY Sunday, June 2 – August 4
in Galva’s Wiley Park.

🎵 Amplify Community Pride
🎵 Enrich lives through free Music
🎵 Promote vibrant public Places

This concert series is supported by many local contributors and the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation, a private foundation that empowers towns and cities across America to transform under used public spaces into thriving destinations through the power of free, live music.
Learn more at levitt.org
Scarecrow Contest  
October 1-31
Come thrill at the Scarecrow contest among Bishop Hill businesses and store owners. Vote for your favorite by Oct. 24th at the Prairie Arts Center. 309-927-3008

8th Annual Ghost Stories Around the “BonFire”  
October 9
Join Storyteller Brian “Fox” Ellis for ghost stories from around the world. Starting at 6pm with not so scary stories, each story will get a little spookier. At 7pm he turns up the heat with truly scary stories that can send a shiver down your spine. This event is held at the Twinflower Inn. Email foxtales@foxtalesint.com or call 309-696-1017. 6-8pm

I Need to Make a Dollar: Protest Songs of Illinois Workers, 1865 - 1970  
October 24
At 2 pm at the Dairy Building, there will be a free public one hour concert by musician Bucky Halker. This musical program brings the voice of the people to audiences, letting workers tell their story “from the bottom up.” The program features a sampling from the thousands of songs written by Illinois workers, allowing audiences to gain insight into the vision of these workers for a better, more just, and more democratic state and nation. This presentation is hosted by the BHHA and sponsored by the Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau. 2pm 309-927-3899

Hopewell Weaving Weekend  
November 6-8
Join Jennie Hawkie of Hopewell Weaving to create a weaving project in one weekend. Looms will be provided. All levels of experience are welcomed. This event takes place at the Colony School and participants can also include a stay at the Twinflower Inn. Some meals included. Contact hopewellweaving@gmail.com.

Christmas Open House at Sweet Annie’s Primitives  
November 7
10am – 3pm 309-927-3072

Julmarknad (Christmas Market)  
November 27-29 & Dec. 5-6
Swedish traditions come alive with folk characters causing mischief throughout the village. Music and the smell of food fill the air. Shops are filled with handmade items, antiques, folk art and other gift items. 10 am- 5pm Bishop Hill Arts Council and BHHA 309-927-3899

Cookie Walk at the Colony School  
November 27-28
Local elves make cookies that are sure to please everyone. 9am

Community Paint Project  
November 27-29
Help the Vasa National Archives paint a beautiful winter scene while visiting beautiful Bishop Hill. Smocks will be provided to protect clothing. This is a community art project that is open to children of all ages. We want the whole community to add their own personal touches and make this a fantastic holiday project for display in our gallery during the holiday season. 10am 309-927-3898

Christmas Chocolate Walk at the Dairy Building  
December 5-6
Come for the chocolate walk where many chocolate treats will be available to purchase and take home. This is a fundraiser for the Bishop Hill Arts Council. 10am - 3pm

Vasa Make and Take Dala Horse  
December 5-6
Come paint a wooden Dala Horse to take home for $5 per horse. Paint, brushes, and smocks provided. Participants are welcome to leave their Dala horses at the Archives to dry while shopping in Bishop Hill. 10am – 4pm 309-927-3898
Join Us in 2021 & help us celebrate Bishop Hill’s 175th Anniversary!

Discover Bishop Hill

www.visitbishophill.com
Stroll the Enchanted Mile:

In Bishop Hill you can get everywhere from anywhere in less than a mile! Less than 5 blocks long and 7 blocks wide, you can easily stroll around the entire town, taking in more than 40 historic homes, galleries, shops, and museums. Create your own itinerary. Pick up a passport at Visitor Information or any shop, museum or restaurant. Get more than 10 stamps on your passport and you will be entered to win a Gift Certificate that can be used anywhere in Bishop Hill. Drawings at Midsommer and Lucia Nights.
Shops & Services

1. Summer Cottage, 309-927-3359
2. Hantverk Galleri, 309-927-3064
3. Entwined, 309-927-3222
4. Bishop Hill Creative Commons, 309-927-3851
5. Feathered Nest, 309-927-3033
6. Twisted by Design – Vintage Goods Shop
7. Peasant Works, peasantworks
8. Prairie Arts Center, 309-927-3008
9. Garden Thyme, 309-373-5314
11. Sweet Annie Primitives, 309-927-3072
12. Colony Store, 309-927-3596
13. Outsider Gallery
14. As the Crow Flies

Food & Drink

10. The Filling Station, 309-927-3355
13. PL Johnson’s, 309-927-3385
15. The Colony Inn, 309-927-3335
32. Bishop Hill Eatery, 309-927-3042

Lodging

22. Twin Flower B&B, 309-927-3506
30. The Gallery Inn, 309-927-3080

Museums

11. Colony Church, 309-927-3345
24. BHHA Steeple Building, 309-927-3899
27. Bjorklund Hotel, 309-927-3345
36. Vasa Archives & Museum, 309-927-3898
41. Henry County Museum, 309-927-3528
47. Bishop Hill Museum, 309-927-3345

Points of Interest

# Open to public
# Walk-by viewing only

ATM** at Bishop Hill

Creative Commons

Public Restroom

Visitor Information

* Events can be postponed please call to avoid disappointment.

** ATM available for the convenience of our visitors. Not all shops accept credit or debit cards.

The Bishop Hill Visitors’ Guide is a publication of the Bishop Hill Arts Council. We wish to thank the Bishop Hill Heritage Association, Lou Hanson, Lou Lourdeau, Kathy Cuff, John Taylor, Tom Campbell, Ann Stodgel, and The Bishop Hill State Historic Site for the use of their photos. Programs of the Bishop Hill Arts Council are funded in part by grants from the QC Arts & Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.
The perfect spot for a delicious lunch and fresh baked goods!

Wednesdays thru Fridays: 10am to 3pm
Saturdays: 10am to 4pm
Sundays: 11am to 4pm

106 S. Bishop Hill Street, Bishop Hill, IL 61419 / (309)927-3042
bishophillbakery.com / follow us on facebook and instagram!

New location with expanded seating & menu!
Planning a wedding? A Family Reunion? A corporate retreat, bus tour, dog show or baby shower? Bishop Hill can offer space and atmosphere! The 1850 Colony School, the 1854 Dairy Building and the Bishop Hill Commons are available to rent. The Vasa National Archive and the Steeple Building have space as well. Contact them directly for rental information. Looking for food to go with that rental? The Filling Station, PL Johnsons and The Bishop Hill Bakery can make it for you. Contact them directly for menu options. Need help planning or organizing an event? Contact Nicole at bishophillweddings.com

EVENING MEALS in Bishop Hill:
The Filling Station serves dinner every Friday. PL Johnsons serves Saturday night dinner beginning in May. The Colony Inn Tavern has pizza and pub foods, but other nights it is recommended that you make reservations at one of the many restaurants that are within a short drive.

Ongoing Events….

Vasa Game Nights - January through March
Join in the fun! Meet new people. Everyone welcome. Bring a game, bring a snack. Beat the winter blues! Tuesday evenings. 6-8pm 309-927-3898

Concerts at the Commons
Join us for our weekly concert series with some of the best bands touring the world—from Ireland to Peru, Nashville to Austin and all points in between. These family friendly concerts are great fun and you get to see Grammy winning artists in an intimate setting. Full schedule at Bishop Hill Creative Commons on FB or contact John Taylor at john.r.taylor@gmail.com. Potluck at 6pm. Music at 7pm.

Art Workshops at The Commons
Weekend and weekday hands on workshops for kids and adults throughout the year. Follow us on FB or call 309-927-3851 for upcoming events.

Garden Thyme
We will be having garden and art workshops throughout the year. Check them out on GardenThymeArt.com or call Katrina at 309-373-5314
Lucia Nights  December 11-12
Coffee and sweets are served in shops and museums by young girls dressed as St. Lucia. Soup supper available at the First United Methodist Church as well as all of Bishop Hill’s restaurants. Musical entertainment fills the air. Luminaries line the sidewalks. It is a magical event. 6-9pm 309-927-3899
Dec 11: 6pm Lighting of the Christmas Tree in the Bishop Hill Village Park.
Dec 12: 7pm Barn Dance at the Colony School

Vasa Closing Reception  December 11
Come say goodbye to the Nordic Fairy Tale Exhibit which will be replaced with a new exhibit for the 2021-22 season. 6-9pm 309-927-3898

A Celtic Winter Solstice  December 19
Storyteller, Brian “Fox” Ellis, and singer/songwriter, Barry Cloyd celebrate the longest night with traditional tales and tunes at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons. Email foxtales@foxtalesint.com or call 309-696-1017. 7pm

Julotta  December 25
Join us in a Swedish Christmas Service at the Colony Church. Enjoy coffee and rusks after the service. 6am

New Year’s Day Smorgasbord  January 1, 2021
Celebrate the New Year with a Swedish Smorgasbord at the Filling Station 11am-2pm 309-927-3355

Twinflower Inn Annual Writers Retreat  January 6-10, 2021
Spend one day or five working with fellow writers in an artist-centered workshop where there is a balance between instruction and group critiques with lots of quiet time to write. Brian “Fox” Ellis, author of 16 books and over a 100 articles, screenplays, and musicals, is our host. Contact Fox at 309-696-1017 or foxtales@foxtalesint.com to make reservations.

Filling Station Valentines Day Dinner  February 10, 2021
Come celebrate with your “main squeeze.” Candles, candies and tablecloths! 5-8pm 309-927-3355

P. L. Johnson’s Valentines Day Dinner  February 13, 2021
Enjoy a romantic dinner as we open for 2021. 5-7pm 309-927-3885

Filling Station St. Patrick’s Day Dinner  March 17, 2021
Celebrate the wearin’ of the green! 5-8pm 309-927-3355

Book Lover Retreat Weekends at the Twinflower Inn  Weekends Jan-April 2021.
Indulge yourself in a pampered weekend and spend a luxurious time reading. For more information or to make a reservation email kim@twinflowerinn.com or call 309-696-0833.
Like the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock and the Quakers who followed William Penn to Pennsylvania, the Jansonists were a group of Protestants who fled oppression seeking religious freedom on the shores of America. Eric Janson was known as the Wheat Flour Messiah. He had a debilitating illness cured by a miracle that reshaped the rest of his life. He began preaching about our personal relationship with the Lord, not one filtered by the state religion. After being jailed for his beliefs, he fled Sweden with more than 1000 followers. These people sold everything they owned, some families were divided, and they took the arduous journey across the North Atlantic to America in 1846.

They sent a scout ahead to purchase property in what was then the western wilderness of Illinois. The first winter they lived in dugouts along the creek. Cholera claimed the lives of many. They soon built a church for worship, large dormitories for housing, a bakery and a brewery to feed their growing numbers. They built industry: brooms, buggies, and woven rugs for income. They built a community that shared the wealth harvesting the bounty of the land. They built a hospital, a school, and administrative offices. More than a town, they built what became a successful economic enterprise that valued the labor of women and men, and educated their children.
The preaching and philosophy of Eric Janson is too complex for these few paragraphs, except to say that his convictions inspired many and caused consternation among more than a few. He was murdered in the Henry County Courthouse over a quarrel with his cousin’s husband. The community was then managed for a number of years by a board of trustees. The community was eventually dissolved and the holdings were divided among the members with women and children also receiving shares of property, unusual in the 1860’s.

Bishop Hill became a hub for thousands of Swedish Immigrants who eventually settled much of the Midwest, from Galva to Galesburg, Minnesota to North Dakota.

At the turn of the last century many of the colony buildings were falling into disrepair. The Old Settlers, The Bishop Hill Heritage Association and the State of Illinois stepped up to save the buildings still standing. Throughout the 1970s restoration and preservation became the call to arms. With help from the Swedish Royal family, descendants of the hardy pioneers and thousands of hours of volunteer labor, Bishop Hill became a thriving community once more. With tens of thousands of visitors every year, visitors from all 50 states, Sweden and other Scandinavian countries, Bishop Hill has a well-earned reputation as a place to step out of the hustle and bustle and back to a simpler time. Truly a Utopia on the Prairie, it is the kind of place where it is easy to expect enchantment!
GALVA PHARMACY

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- Gift certificates
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Open: April—December

Tues—Sat 10-4 and Sun 11-3

- Exhibits on Sweden and Nordic people, arts, places, immigration, and other topics
- Learn about the Vasa Order, a Swedish-American Fraternal Organization
- Research your Swedish heritage and the Vasa Order’s history in our archive.

109 S. Bishop Hill St., Bishop Hill, IL
309-927-3898
VasaArchivist@gmail.com

VasaArchives.org
Vasa Order.com

The Bishop Hill Creative Commons

309 North Bishop Hill Rd.
309-937-3851 bishophillcommons.com

Like us on Facebook to see the complete schedule of concerts and workshops!

Fine Art & Traditional Crafts
Concerts at The Commons
Storytelling & Workshops
Everyday art for everyone!
OLOF KRANS:
Bishop Hill’s Painter

Olof Krans, Illinois’s foremost folk artist, journeyed with his family from Sweden to join the Bishop Hill Colony at the age of 12. As his contribution to the 50th anniversary celebration in 1896 of the founding of the Bishop Hill Colony, Krans painted his childhood memories of communal life. The remarkable Olof Krans Bishop Hill Collection can be viewed at the Bishop Hill Museum. Currently 91 of Krans’s paintings are on exhibit, making this the largest collection of Olof Krans folk art in the world. Additional Krans paintings are on exhibit at the Bishop Hill Heritage’s Steeple Building Museum.
The City of Go

- Wonderful Shops
- Beautiful Parks
- Excellent School District
- Dedicated Emergency Services
- Many Clubs and Organizations
- Annual 4th of July celebration

www.galvail.gov

Michael E. Massie
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The organizations of Bishop Hill work together to preserve this special 19th century community for the many visitors who come from all over the world to explore and experience what Bishop Hill has to offer. Bishop Hill organizations depend on volunteers to make things happen. Special event weekends, tours, gardening, ticket taking, cleaning, renovating and the publication of this visitor guide can only happen with the dedication of our volunteers. Consider volunteering once a week, once a month or for one event and help to preserve and nurture this unique historical town.

Bishop Hill Heritage Association
PO Box 92, Bishop Hill, IL 61419 • 309-927-3899
The Bishop Hill Heritage Association was organized in 1962 with the original goal of saving the Colony era buildings that were in disrepair and restoring them to functional use. They continue to maintain these historic properties and the culture unique to Bishop Hill. The administrative office, museum and archives of the BHHA are located in the 1854 Steeple Building. The BHHA also manages the 1908 Krans Livery Stable museum and the 1854 Dairy Building which is used for workshops and concerts and is also available to rent for meetings and get togethers. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. The BHHA also offers group tours by appointment. Become a member at www.bishophillheritage.org

Bishop Hill Old Settlers’ Association (BHOSA)
PO Box 68, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419
The Old Settler’s Association was organized in 1896 to observe the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Bishop Hill Colony. In 1953 the BHOSA purchased and restored the 1861 Colony School. The schoolhouse, kitchen and grounds are maintained by the group and are available to rent for meetings, parties and special occasions. www.BHOSA.org

Bishop Hill State Historic Site
P.O. Box 104, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419 • 309-927-3345
The State of Illinois has been an active partner in Bishop Hill’s preservation since 1946 when the village donated the Colony Church, 1848, and Village Park, est. 1853, to the People of Illinois. The Colony Hotel, 1852-1861, Colony Barn, c. 1856-1860, Boy’s Dormitory, 1847, and the Bishop Hill Museum have been added to the site. Today the site is administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Henry County Historical Society
202 South Park Street, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419
The history of Henry County, Illinois is close at hand when you enter this one story museum housed in a former school house. Displays are nicely organized and catalogued to make your visit one that won’t be forgotten. You will find items that were typical of historic Henry County, including a steam engine, tools, clothing and quilts. The museum also displays a replica general store, a harness shop, and professional offices. r.k.edwards@outlook.com

Vasa Order of America National Archives Inc
109 South Bishop Hill Street, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419 • 309-927-3898
The Vasa archives are designed to preserve the Swedish culture in America and Canada. Visitors can utilize the Archives to complete genealogical research. Assistance is available for members and nonmembers in America and Sweden who are interested in genealogical research. You will also find a collection of several hundred cassette tapes of interviews of Swedish immigrants conducted by Lennart Setterdahl. Your visit is quite welcome. Space for meetings and special events is available for rent.

Bishop Hill Arts Council
PO Box 47 Bishop Hill, IL 61419 • 309-927-3064
For more than three decades the Bishop Hill Arts Council has promoted the arts and artisans that reflect the traditions of Bishop Hill. The Arts Council produces this visitors’ guide, sponsors performing and visual arts events and activities throughout the year.
Entwined

Hours: Monday-Saturday 10-5 & Sunday 11-4
309-927-3222
Email us @ entwined2015@gmail.com
www.shopentwined.com

Krans Kafe

Hours: Monday-Saturday 8AM-4PM & Sunday 10AM-4PM
Email us @ kranskafe@gmail.com
309-927-3136
www.kafekrans.com

401 North Bishop Hill Street
(In the same building as Entwined)