

EST. 2011

See Nauvoo News

N A U V O O B E T T E R M E N T A S S O C I A T I O N

NOVEMBER EVENTS

- Nov 9, Bright Angel Tree, See Article p.1
- Nov 18, NASA in Nauvoo, 2 p.m., Library
- Nov 23, Free Movie, Grandpa Johns Theater, See article p.3



NOVEMBER MEETINGS

- Nov 1, Hotel/Motel Board, 2 p.m., City Hall
- Nov 13, Chamber of Commerce, noon, Nauvoo Inn.
- Nov 14, Park Board, 6 p.m.
- Nov 14, City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- Nov 15, NBA, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Nov 16, NFPD, Fire Department, 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 20, School Board, 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 20, Library Board, 7 p.m.
- Nov 28, Chamber of Commerce Board, noon, zoom

The Nauvoo Orchestra is back!

In fact, it is gearing up for the 2023-2024 season which will begin with a concert performance of selections from Handel's Messiah on Saturday, December 9 at 7:30pm. This year the venue will be the Pageant building located east of Nauvoo at 885 East Hwy 96.

The story of the death and re-birth of the Nauvoo Orchestra began when organizer Laurie Peterson left Nauvoo for Arkansas in February 2022. Without her, the orchestra struggled to keep going and dissolved in April of this year. Laurie returned to Nauvoo in July and immediately set to work to reinstate the Nauvoo Orchestra.

The Nauvoo Community Orchestra was the result of the hard work and dedication of two talented musicians in Nauvoo, Illinois.

It was established in 2010 by Laurie Peterson. Dennis Dowell was the first conductor. The first performance of the Orchestra was held in October 2010 as part of the Women's Guild Concert at the Community of Christ meetinghouse in Nauvoo. Subsequent concerts were held each year in the fall, during the holiday season, and the spring. Following their Spring 2014 concert, Mr. Dowell retired and Rick Marshall became the new conductor. The Orchestra brought together musicians of all levels of expertise to perform beautiful music and provide a cultural experience for the citizens of Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri.

Over the last dozen years, the Orchestra's musicians (approximately 40 in number) ranged in age from youth as young as 10 years of age to mature individuals in their senior years. Intermediate violin students were given the opportunity to be part of an orchestra and perform with musicians of all levels of expertise. Attendance at past performances was between 130-500 individuals. In previous years, the orchestra has performed The Messiah at Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints meetinghouse (both in Nauvoo), and the Legacy Theater in Carthage.

Laurie Peterson and her family are happy to be back home in Nauvoo and look forward to another successful season for the Nauvoo Orchestra.

Article by Alan Moberly

Nauvoo Bright Angels

Angel Trees will be placed at the Nauvoo Public Library and the State Bank of Nauvoo by November 9. Donors may shop for the selected "angel" using the wish list provided on each angel tag. Total cost for each gift should be no more than \$25 - \$30. Return the unwrapped gift along with the angel card to the Nauvoo Pharmacy by Monday, December 4. If you prefer, you may make a monetary donation to "Nauvoo Bright Angels" at the State Bank of Nauvoo. Thank you for making a child's Christmas brighter this year. Enjoy the spirit of Christmas!



Untold Nauvoo Stories

Nauvoo will be hosting the 14th annual Untold Nauvoo Stories on Friday, February 9th and Saturday, February 10th. The Untold Nauvoo Stories gathering is a venue for sharing unknown stories, little known stories, or stories that need to be revisited based on new historical research. This annual two-day symposium features twenty-four talks and one keynote dinner presentation. The conference is attended by both professional and amateur historians and locals interested in learning more about this area and its people.

This edition of the Untold Nauvoo Stories Symposium will be held at the new Nauvoo Community Center on Mulholland (just east of the Nauvoo Post Office). During the first years of the symposium, it was located at various scattered sites in Nauvoo, then for many years at the Joseph Smith Historic Site at 865 Water Street, and last year the location was at The Inn at Old Nauvoo.

In previous years the symposium was held on the first Friday and Saturday in February (the same weekend as the Exodus Commemoration). This year the symposium dates will be the second Friday and Saturday of February. The 2024 version of Untold Nauvoo Stories will present quite a lineup of speakers and topics. Rumor has it that 19th-century French-American artist, naturalist and ornithologist James Audubon will be one of the lecturers! Watch these pages for further updates.

Article by Alan Moberly

This edition of *See Nauvoo News* is sponsored by
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October City Council October 10, 2023

The aldermen unanimously approved the following expenditures:

- \$225 for Chief of Police Ryan Dykstra to take an online training course called, Dark Web and Cyber Investigations.
- \$800, plus use of a squad car for Kolton Johnson & Colton Hardy to attend a police training course called, Street Crimes Interdiction Mastermind. This will be paid out of the cannabis fund.
- \$80, plus use of a squad car for Colton Hardy to attend the Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Course.
- A donation of \$50 to the Hamilton Police Department K9 fund to reimburse them for use of a car.
- \$1,500 to pay for a contract to update the Beautiful Nauvoo website. The Hotel/Motel Tax will pay an additional \$1,500. This will be paid in three monthly installments.
- \$100 donation to the Warsaw High School Help-a-thon fundraiser.

Alderman Jim Boyles reported that bus route signs were updated to match the City Code, and that maps and guides will have to be re-done because they were incorrect. Terry Cano, representing The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, asked if the City could “grandfather” in the old bus routes to match the current maps and guides, and define in writing exactly what a “bus” is. Nauvoo resident and former alderman Karen Ihrig shared a newspaper clipping from July 2000 that stated that the City banned tour busses from residential areas; specifically: buses, commuter vans, recreational vehicles, and travel trailers.

Nauvoo resident and director of Facilities Management (FM) for The Church of Jesus Christ, Jordan Bodily asked that the bus route be extended along Commerce Street to the historic Sarah Grainger House. Alderman Scott Sumner agreed that buses and trucks should be clearly defined and that the bus routes should include Commerce Street down to Sarah Grainger House.

Nauvoo resident Suzy Swing expressed concern that drivers were not stopping at the new 4-way stop signs at the intersection of Wells and Young Streets. She asked that rumble strips be placed at the approaches to that intersection to alert drivers that they are coming to a stop sign.

Nauvoo Community Center Capital Campaign Committee (NC5) chair Barb Schafer reported that more personalized bricks need to be placed to fill out the sidewalk approaching the entrance to the new community center, and are still available for purchase. Cost for a personalized brick is \$250 for 4”x8”, \$500 for 8”x8”, and \$2,000 for a 16”x16” granite paver. Readers can contact City Hall to get one of these bricks and “immortalize” their name or that of someone or something they care about. Schafer added that NC5 felt that the new Community Center will be ready for occupancy on October 30, pending the City’s decision.

Several people spoke out on The Church of Jesus Christ proposed Temple Visitor Center Site Plan; some for, some against. The City Council is still waiting on legal opinions regarding the zoning ordinances.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm. Representatives of The Church of Jesus Christ stayed after the meeting to address anyone’s concerns about the Temple Visitor Center Site Plan.

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

Special City Council Meeting

The Nauvoo City Council held a rare special meeting on Tuesday, September 26th at City Hall. The meeting was very short: less than four minutes.

The six aldermen unanimously approved construction of a crosswalk on Mulholland and Wells Streets between State Bank of Nauvoo, Zion’s Mercantile, Temple Square, and the Temple parking lot. The work will begin right away, and should be completed before winter. The Church of Jesus Christ will reimburse the City of Nauvoo for maintenance of the crosswalk.

Also approved unanimously was a permit to MCC Network Services to use the public right-of-way to install fiber optic cable along the south side of White Street and east side of S Gordon Street at the depth required by the City. Alderman Jim Boyles will oversee this project for the City.

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly



NASA in Nauvoo! Part 3: Psyched for Psyche!

Join the Nauvoo Public Library and local Solar System Ambassador Mellissa Smith on November 18th at 2:00 [./] at City Hall for our third installment of NASA in Nauvoo! This month we will be covering the Psyche mission with up to date information on the project. A program good for space fans of all ages!

Library Raffle

The Nauvoo Public Library will be hosting a raffle this November! We have a My Life doll with many beautiful outfits and a Harry Potter LEGO advent calendar. Tickets can be purchased at the library for either item. Both would make great Christmas presents! Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets. Need not be present to win. Drawing is November 20th!

Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves Free Showing

Join the Nauvoo Public Library on Saturday, November 25th at 2:00 p.m. at Grandpa John’s Theatre for a FREE showing of Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves, rated PG-13. Free popcorn and soda provided as well!

Librarian’s Report Circulation September

- 152 Digital Circulation September 2023 – Libby: 80 Boundless: 72
- Books borrowed from other libraries (transit to) September 2023 – 341
- Books borrowed from our library (transit from) September 2023 – 166
- Reciprocal Borrows - 7
- Visitors to the library in September 2023 – 536/20per day
- In Person Story Time Attendance: Adults:8 Children: 13 (no story time for winter)



Scarecrow Festival

The 6th annual Nauvoo Scarecrow Festival, sponsored by the Nauvoo Betterment Association, kicked off on Saturday, October 7 with the following activities:

Young and old enjoyed the 1939 musical fantasy film *The Wizard of Oz* Sponsored by the Nauvoo Public Library, the movie was shown on the big screen in the theater located inside and behind Grandpa John's Cafe (1255 Mulholland). Following the movie Festival organizers will announced and presented awards for "Best Crow in Show", and "Best Natural Nauvoo Crow", as decided by a panel of judges. Best Crow in Show went to Lou Ann Metternich and her husband Dave, for "Gone with the Wind". Best Natural Nauvoo Crow went to Carol McGhghy and Ana LeVesque for "Nauv-WHOO City H-Owl." New this year will be the "People's Choice" award as determined by Facebook voting on the Nauvoo Scarecrow Facebook page.

After the movie showing was the "Spooktacular Soup Sampling". Held at Grandpa John's Cafe, for \$10 you could sample, partake, or wolf-down the soups (as well as water and cookies). Upon payment each soup sampler received 3 voting tickets to cast for their favorite soup(s) to receive the "People's Choice Award". The Spooktacular Soup Sampling will featured such mouthwatering delights as potato soup, lasagna soup, clam chowder, spinach bisque, chili and more were among the "soups du jour". The winner of the People's Choice Award Christoph Lichner was awarded a "Golden Ladle" for his "Germinator" Soup. Last year's winners were Carrie & BreAnne Peterson for their creamy ham and corn chowder Haystack Haunt.

The event is sponsored by the Nauvoo Betterment Association, which is dedicated to enhancing the perception of Nauvoo's appearance and amenities by making the town more comfortable, interesting, attractive and user friendly to both its citizenry and visitors. The Association promotes and encourages improvements to the quality of life in Nauvoo through short-term and on-going action committees. These groups help build community pride with the assistance of local groups and individuals who are interested in the community, both present and future.

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

Oktoberfest

Around 700 people poured into the Knights of Columbus Hall for the 2nd Annual Oktoberfest. Upon entering through the glass doors of what was once a furniture store, my first thought was, "There are a LOT of people here!" Immediately off to the left were two ladies displaying quilts made by the Sts. Peter & Paul Piece Makers. These local volunteers get together regularly to make quilts for injured and ill service personnel who are triaged through the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. These "made in Nauvoo" quilts are distributed by the USO to comfort and warm those young men and women on their journey back to the United States. To date the Piece Makers have made 200 quilts.

Long tables with folding chairs set up at angles filled the room, seemingly pointing to the back of the hall, where the musicians of the Heidelberg German Band were pumping out lively, toe-tapping, hand-clapping German (and occasionally Mexican) music. The ensemble was dressed in traditional German costumes, and played various musical instruments, including the clarinet, saxophone, euphonium, trumpet, and accordion. Assisted by an excellent sound system, the music filled the hall. Tom and Kimberli Grant, owners of Historical Merriments dance school, danced a fast polka up and down the aisle and in front of the band. Their dancing was so lively and energetic that one might have thought that a Brigham Young University dance troupe was in town! Speaking of "young", some adorable kids got caught up in the music and danced (impromptu) as well, to the delight of the more senior diners watching.

Did I mention dining? Yes, German cuisine (bratwurst, sauerkraut, hot dogs, plus several desserts) was available for a modest price, with funds going to the Knights of Columbus and the Nauvoo Historical Society.

One couple heard about the Oktoberfest on Facebook and drove in from Clark County, Missouri. Others came from LaHarpe, and from Fort Madison, Iowa. It looks like the Nauvoo Oktoberfest is a new tradition that will continue for years to come.

Article by Alan Moberly

Pumpkin Walk

Nauvoo Pumpkin Walk is a success! There is nothing better than seeing the street lit up with over 500 carved pumpkins. It sprinkled a little but not enough to ruin the night. The crowds aren't as big as the past two years. The food is good!! The people are friendly! It's a great time to be in Nauvoo!"

Along with the Grape Festival and the Pageants, the Pumpkin Walk brings many visitors to Nauvoo every year. The crowds seemed a bit lighter than usual, probably because the weather was chilly, and rain was in the forecast. The parade kicked off at 5:00, beginning at the old grade school building and marching west to Page Street. Besides the usual costumes of monsters, sci-fi heroes, and dinosaurs, there was a long dragon and, a horse-drawn wagon carrying an orchestra.

No parking was allowed up and down Mulholland Street, and barriers were set up to allow pedestrians a wider walking space as they watched the parade, then strolled up and down the street to admire the pumpkins. It seemed that the most creative and exquisite pumpkins were along the sidewalks approaching the brand-new Nauvoo Community Center building. From my perch in front of the historic Hotel Nauvoo, the crowds were happy and consisted of people of all ages: families with little kids, teenagers, and senior citizens.

The Warsaw School Jazz Band performed a concert in front of the Allyn House. The various food vendors appeared busy as well. Around 8:00 the crowd began to thin out. Sunday morning, the jack-o-lanterns were all gone.

Another post from one of the organizers read, "The talent this year has been phenomenal! The volunteers have been phenomenal!! Another shout out to McVeigh's Pumpkin Patch and Mike's Produce for the extraordinary pumpkin selection this year as well."

Lots of work went into the pumpkin walk. The carved creations were set in place Saturday morning and removed late Saturday night. Some were taken home as festive decorations. Most were taken to a compost pile to be recycled back into the soil. Fifty of them will be placed along Lakeview Trail in Nauvoo State Park for walkers and wildlife to enjoy. The Boo-ti-ful Nauvoo Pumpkin walk occurs every year the Saturday before Halloween in October.

Article by Alan Moberly



Articles may be submitted at any time to
seenuvoonews@gmail.com
Deadline for the December Issues is November 24

See Nauvoo News may be picked up at the following locations for a suggested donation of twenty-five cents: City Hall, Fudge Factory, Nauvoo Market Place, Nauvoo Pharmacy, State Bank of Nauvoo, and The Red Front. The newsletter may also be found online at Beautiful Nauvoo's Facebook Page and at www.beautifulnauvoo.com. **Note:** The See Nauvoo News staff reserves the right to condense event information, referring readers to reference sites for specific event details.

Nauvoo State Park- Park 3 in a 3 Park Series

Once part of a home to a Fox Indian village of 400 to 500 lodges Nauvoo State Park is located in Hancock County, Illinois. Nauvoo State Park is a 148 acre park on the south edge of Nauvoo along Illinois Route 96. Directly across from the Mississippi River there are some beautiful sights on a regular basis.

The State Park is home to numerous geese that love the proximity to the river. They raise their little geese families year after year and flow back and forth across the highway making sure we all take notice of them. Many is the evening or morning when you drive by the Park and see dozens of deer grazing or resting in the acres and acres of land where they are safe to take refuge.

Lake Horton, which is housed in the State Park is a 13 acre man-made fishing lake stocked with largemouth bass, channel catfish, and bluegill. The addition of Lake Horton has also helped to encourage and sustain wildlife in the park. There are numerous boxes around for wood ducks. These boxes can be found 15 to 20 feet up in the trees around the lake. I also have it on credible authority, the Lake Horton habitat quite frequently harbors young eagles learning to fly and hunt. Sometimes they even like to visit the houses that are close to the Lake.

This beautiful State Park also offers 105 camping spaces divided between Class A and Class B. There is even a handicap accessible site that sits only 100' from the shower house and has a wheelchair accessible picnic table and grill.

If you like to explore and look at nature close-up, Nauvoo State Park's Lake Trail is 1.5 miles and shows off some of the parks best features. There is also a 3/8 mile little loop trail as well as a one-way trail that leads hikers to Gilligan's Island on Lake Horton. I wonder if that's the three hour tour???

This summer the State Park took quite a hit from the Derecho of July. Thanks to some help from our beloved City Dudes, things were able to be gathered up and cleaned up. Can't wait to bring some hotdogs to that BonFire!!! The beauty after the storm revealed itself in several Fairy Rings around the Park. What a fun novel sight those were!! I hope they make another magical appearance next year!!

On a personal note, I can remember spending hours on the sledding hill as a kid with my parents. Funny how at that age you really don't feel the cold like you do when you get older!!! Take some time out when the snow hits, grab a thermos of hot cocoa and have some fun enjoying the beauty of one of the three parks surrounding our little town.

Not every town is fortunate enough to house three such distinctly beautiful and important parks. Love them well and take care of them every chance you get. Whether it is just picking up some wrappers or trash that is blowing around or simply stopping to take pictures not plants. There are so many little things we do that matter. Love them well and they will certainly love us back. Thank you for taking time to read about our parks and become familiar with them. Being completely transparent the bulk of this article came from the Illinois State Park website with just a little tweaking and some personal insight. Sorry for my plagiaristic tendencies but thank you to www.dnr.illinois.gov.

Unregistered Nightly Rentals

What is a nightly rental? A nightly rental is any home or business that offers accommodations for short-term occupancy rentals on a daily or weekly basis. Anytime someone offers their home or a room for someone else to stay in for a payment or other exchange they are subject to nightly rental laws. Long-term rentals of 30 days or more with a lease or rental agreement are not subject to nightly rental laws.

Why should we care if people violate nightly rental laws? There are many reasons, but here are three to consider:

1. Loss of revenue for the city: Tourism provides many benefits to our city and businesses. However the additional visitors put additional strain on our city infrastructure including our streets, police, fire, water, sewer, etc. Maintaining these services comes at a cost. The income that the city receives from Hotel and Motel taxes helps to offset the additional costs tourism places on our city. Unregistered nightly rentals do not collect taxes which saddles the burden of these infrastructure costs on the Nauvoo residents.

2. Better experience for Nauvoo residents and tourists: In order to receive a rental license from the city, an inspection of the property is required to ensure it is safe and in appropriate condition to be rented. The inspector also ensures safety features such as fire extinguishers, fire alarms, and fire exits are available. Without an inspection there is a higher possibility that a sub-par or dangerous rental will be offered within the city and tourists will have a poor experience.

Nightly rentals have the potential to impact neighboring residents with noise and parking, so it is important that there are some regulations in place to protect our neighborhoods. The nightly rental economy also encourages investors to buy up homes and increase the price of homes which can make it difficult for residents and potential residents to find affordable places to live. Some amount of real estate investing is healthy, but it is best if it can be kept in check.

3. It's the Law: Last of all, like it or not, licensing nightly rentals within Nauvoo is the law. Disliking or disagreeing with a law does not mean it can just be ignored. There is a process that properties not currently zoned for nightly rentals can go through to become legally authorized and licensed. For any that are of the opinion that the current process is too restrictive or missing certain exceptions, there is also a process in place to make changes by starting a petition or speaking with the City Council. We can all be good citizens by following the laws and following the legal process to make changes to laws we disagree with.

By Jordan Squire, Chairman of the Nauvoo Economic Development Committee