



MOMCC SPRING CONFERENCE

March 21-23, 2024

Bishop Hill, Illinois

In-Person Conference



Seeking Utopia:

**A Look on How Innovations and Traditions Help Some
Utopias Thrive**

Don't Miss the Deadlines:

Hotel: March 14, 2024

Registration: March 7, 2024

Spring 2024 Conference Schedule Overview

March 21-23 2024

All times are Central

Wednesday, March 20 (AmericInn, Kewanee Illinois)

3:00 p.m. MOMCC Board Meeting in AmericInn meeting room

5:00 p.m. Registration Table in hotel lobby

Thursday, March 21 (Bishop Hill)

Free breakfast at hotel and Twinflower Inn for guests

Vendor set up (Commons)

Breaks & Registration Table (Commons)

Morning

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Welcome (Commons)

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Workshop: Paper Marbling (Commons)

Workshop: Silk Ribbon Embroidery (Dairy)

9:00 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. **Tour:** Walking Tour of Bishop Hill (Steeple Building)

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Break (Commons)

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch on your own in Bishop Hill

Afternoon

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Session: Dance Fundamentals for Historical Site Interpreters (Dairy)

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Workshop:** Springerie Cookie Making Part 1 of 2 (Colony School)

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 pm. **Tour:** Walking Tour of Bishop Hill (Steeple Building)

3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Break

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Session: Where are the Black Folks? Inclusive and Integrated Civil War Historical Interpretation (Dairy)

5:00 p.m. Supper on your own (Colony Inn in Bishop Hill or in neighboring town of Galva)

6:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. Reception (Commons) & Bishop Hill Heritage Association
Acting Troupe performance *To America*

9:30 p.m. Hospitality Room open (AmericInn)

Friday, March 22 (Bishop Hill)

Free breakfast at hotel and Twinflower Inn for guests

Vendor set up (Commons)

Breaks & Registration Table (Commons)

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Opening gathering and comments (Commons)

Morning

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Resource Group – Agriculture, Gardens, Foodways (Dairy)

Resource Group – Media (Steeple Building)

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Resource Group – Leadership & Supervision (Dairy)

Resource Group – Interpretation, Music, Art, Material Culture (Steeple Building)

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch (catered by the Filling Station) &
Announcements (Commons)

Afternoon

1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Workshop: Dala Horse Painting (Dairy)

1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Shop & explore Bishop Hill

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Session: Square Rule Layout (Steeple Building)

2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Workshop: Mug Rug weaving (Prairie Arts Center)

Session: Communicating Agriculture and Environment Content (Commons)

3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Break

4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Workshop: Springerie Cookie Making Part 2 of 2 (Colony School)

Session: Footwear in the mid-19th Century: Styles and Construction (Commons)

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Break

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Banquet Meal (catered by P.L. Johnson's) and Silent
Auction (Commons) followed by Brian "Fox" Ellis
performance of *Jonas Olson, one of the Swedish
founders of Bishop Hill*

9:30 p.m. Hospitality Room open (AmericInn)

Saturday, March 23 (Bishop Hill)

Free breakfast at hotel and Twinflower Inn for guests

Vendor set up (Commons)

Breaks & Registration Table (Commons)

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Workshop: Weaving rug & Table runner (Prairie Arts Center)

Workshop: Pre-Civil War Wallet Making (Dairy)

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Workshop: A Storyteller's Tour of Bishop Hill (with Modern Tech), Making the Most of the Clio App (Commons)

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Session: Will it Sew? Evaluating, Repairing, and Using Antique Sewing Machines (Steeple Building)

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Session: Full Size Farming on a Quarter Acre Lot (Steeple Building)

12:00 – 12:30 p.m. Break

12:30 pm Closing Remarks (Commons)

MAPS WILL BE PROVIDED AT REGISTRATION THAT SHOW THE LOCATIONS OF THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES IN BISHOP HILL; EVERYTHING IN BISHOP HILL IS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE

LODGING OPTIONS

AmericInn by Wyndham Kewanee

925 Tenney Street

Kewanee IL 61443

309-856-7200

Please ask for the MOMCC rate when calling. \$85 plus tax/night. Amenities: 100% Smoke-Free Hotel, Indoor Pool with Hot Tub, Free Breakfast Buffet, Fitness Center, Free Wi-Fi, Free Parking, and Pet Friendly.



Twinflower Inn Bed & Breakfast

110 Olson Street

Bishop Hill IL 61419

309-696-0833, kim@twinflowerinn.com

This warm and inviting one-of-a-kind B&B is nestled in the historic Swedish Utopia of Bishop Hill. Built in 1855 as the Colony Hospital, the Twinflower Inn has been lovingly restored. With five guest rooms, each with an en suite bathroom, it is the ultimate retreat. Hot breakfast is provided. Please call or email for rates.



GETTING TO AND FROM KEWANEE AND BISHOP HILL

From AmericInn Kewanee to Bishop Hill is a 17-minute drive (12.6 miles). If you do not have a vehicle, you can arrange transportation with Henry County Public Transportation by calling (309) 854-7433 (<http://www.ride-hcpt.com/>). There are also a couple of taxi services in Kewanee as well.

MOMCC members are good about carpooling. Check for sharing rides at the MOMCC registration desk Wednesday evening and the Hospitality room Thursday and Friday evenings. Meet at the front desk in the mornings to find your ride.



Fellowship Application for 2024 Spring Conference

For each conference, MOMCC gives out a limited number of fellowships to help offset conference costs. The MOMCC fellowship for the regional conference awards amounts up to the cost of full registration in

addition to funds for lodging. The funding amount for lodging will be determined per conference by the MOMCC Board. Fellowships are based upon need, applicants, and available funds. Please visit www.momcc.org for more details.

SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday, March 21, 2024

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Workshop: Introduction to Middle Eastern paper marbling workshop

Taught by J.C. Bielik

Located at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons

This paper marbling class is intended to be an introduction to Middle Eastern paper marbling. Historically appropriate materials and techniques will be the foundation of our class. This variety of marbling exceeds historic trades authenticity for the most demanding historic site. Our class includes a very brief history of paper marbling, the viewing of common objects employing marbled paper, and a discussion and application of basic tools, materials, and technique. There will be plenty of time for each of us to create a variety of patterns that can be used in the future to enhance a multitude of projects. Minimum of 4 participants. Maximum of 16 participants. **\$15.00**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Workshop: Spider-Web Rose: Silk ribbon/silk thread hand embroidery workshop

Taught by Cathy Grafton

Located at the Dairy Building

Silk ribbon embroidery began in the mid 1700's where it was used on court clothing in France and England. By 1800, it was being taught in America at the Moravians Dame Schools and has gone in and out of popularity since then, such as the crazy quilt era. This workshop will be an introduction to doing silk ribbon embroidery, which basically uses traditional embroidery stitches.

Learn to create a small sampler of silk ribbon using the spider-web rose, lazy daisy, French knots, stem and ribbon stitch. You will use silk ribbon for the flowers and leaves and silk thread for stem and decorative details. We will do the embroidery work in the workshop and you will see finished pieces along with several ways to use this design and other silk ribbon possibilities. Materials to bring- a few basic sewing notions such as small scissors and a thimble. Materials will be provided and hoops will be loaned. Minimum of 4 participants. Maximum of 10 participants. **\$25.00**

9:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m. and again from 2 :00 p.m.-3:30 p .m.

Tour: Walking Tour of Bishop Hill

Provided by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association, starts at the Steeple Building Museum

The BHHA offers a 1.5 hour walking tour of this National Historic Landmark village. Led by expert guides, learn about the Bishop Hill Colony, which was started in 1846 by Swedish immigrants. 18 pre-Civil War buildings are still in use today in Bishop Hill as museums, businesses, and more. Minimum of 5 participants. Maximum of 20 participants. **No cost but registration is required.**

1:30 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

Session: Dance Fundamentals for Historical Site Interpreters

Presented by Jeanette Watts

Located at the Dairy Building

There are so many dances in so many eras that we interpret; as a starting point that applies to over 100 years of history, I propose to teach the fundamental vocabulary for country dances. In the 1700s, country dances and cotillions were all the rage. These dances are endless combinations of a particular vocabulary that is fairly accessible to novice dancers – like museum personnel, and museum visitors who have not danced before. In the 1800s, the same vocabulary of dance figures loses the footwork that goes with it, acquires a few name changes, and the configuration changes from predominantly long lines into predominantly squares of 8 people, but the same knowledge base from the 1700s still works for teaching dances most of the way through the 1800s.

For this session, attendees will learn some dance vocabulary, we will apply it to a period dance, I will cover some more material, we will apply it to a period dance, and we will examine the same figures as used in 1776 and in 1861. This session will be flexible to meet the needs of

attendees: I will adjust exactly which dances and figures I teach to match the years the class participants portray.

Jeanette Watts is the founder of Madame Gigi's Outrageous French Cancan Dancers, Raks Devi (belly dance troupe), the Terpsichorean Delights Dance Assembly (Vintage Ballroom club), Hard Core Vintage, and Queen City Vintage Dance. She has taught historical dance for history museums in Ohio and North Carolina, and is preparing to teach 1776 dances at historical societies and museums around the country for the 250th.

2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Workshop: Springerle cookie making

Taught by Letha Misener

Located at the Colony School

In this workshop, you will learn how to make German Springerle Cookies from scratch. This is a 2-day workshop with the mixing of the dough and the imprinting of the cookies occurring the first day and the baking of the cookies occurring the second day. The second day will occur on Friday March 22 from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. at the Colony School as well. Minimum of 8 participants. Maximum of 15 participants. **\$45.00**

3:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Session: Where are the Black Folks? Inclusive and Integrated Civil War Historical Interpretation

Presented by Yulanda Burgess

Located at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons

On the eve of the American Civil War, 14.1 percent of the United States population consisted of African Americans. However, this percentage is not reflected in the numbers participating as interpreters at Civil War historical events, reenactments and living history events. Civil War era civilian living history groups and events remain segregated or have a small percentage of African Americans participating. Yulanda Burgess will discuss omissions and challenges related to the ethnic composition of Civil War civilian groups. Suggestions will be presented for historical organizations and civilian groups to lay foundations for more inclusive public history that involves the interaction between European and African Americans in the mid-nineteenth century. She will highlight scenarios, material culture, research and retention needed to present a more accurate ethnic depiction of the mid-nineteenth century.

Yulanda Burgess is a historical interpreter, researcher and advocate for inclusive public history. For the past forty years, she has been a guest speaker, consultant, interpreter, and writer on the African American experience in the late eighteen to early twentieth centuries. Over the decades, she has interpreted at numerous historical sites and events throughout the United States and Canada. Venues for historical presentations include the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Archive, African American Civil War Museum, National Park Service sites, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, the Charles H. Wright African American Museum, Illinois Preservation Agency, and Ohio Historical Society.

Friday, March 22, 2024

1:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Workshop: Dala Horse Painting

Taught by Carol Curry

Located at the Dairy Building

Participants will hand-paint a hand crafted wooden Dala Horse using traditional Swedish colors and designs that you can take home. Space for the workshop will be limited to 12 adults. Paint, brushes, Dala Horse, and other supplies will be provided. Because of partial funding by the Illinois Arts Council Agency, the cost of this workshop is only **\$25.00**. Minimum of 6 participants. Maximum of 12 participants.

2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Workshop: Mug Rug weaving

Taught by Kathy Johnson

Located at the Prairie Arts Center

Join the staff of the Prairie Arts Center, located in the historic blacksmith shop, for a weaving workshop. The basic workings of a table loom will be taught. Participants will learn about equipment and weaving procedures. They will then have time to weave and finish a project. All materials are furnished. Space for the workshop is limited to 3 participants. **\$15.00**

2:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Session: Square Rule Layout

Presented by Rick Collins

Located at the Steeple Building Museum

Rick Collins of Trillium Dell/Firmitas will discuss how the square rule works, why it was so important, and how it changed the construction of wooden buildings in the 19th century and beyond. He will also provide a demonstration of the technique.

2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Session: Communicating Agriculture and Environment Content

Presented by Dr. Debra Reid, Curator of Agriculture and the Environment at The Henry Ford

Located at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons

Dr. Reid addresses some ways that The Henry Ford, a large museum complex, communicates crucial agriculture and environment content to learners of all ages. She'll discuss how she selects key messages for exhibits, blogs, and workshops/walkshops, how a team settled on the name and promotional materials for a new restaurant, and how donor engagement launched a museum-wide edible education initiative.

4:15 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Session: Footwear in the mid-19th Century: Styles and Construction

Presented by Norman Walzer

Located at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons

One of the Bishop Hill founding members was a shoemaker/cobbler so it is appropriate to examine styles of shoes and boots worn in this period and how they were constructed in Bishop Hill. This presentation examines footwear styles between the wars (1770s to 1860) using pictures from documented sources. It will also discuss methods of construction with examples of shoes with pegged and sewn soles. Prices of shoes compared with other items will be discussed. Examples of tools and their uses will be shown. The audience should have a better understanding of footwear and be able to date when an artifact was made. If time permits, a short discussion of leather treatments will be included. This session is appropriate for re-enactors as well as museum personnel.

Saturday, March 23, 2024

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Workshop: Rug/Table Runner weaving

Taught by Kathy Johnson

Located at the Prairie Arts Center

Join the staff of the Prairie Arts Center, located in the historic blacksmith shop, for a weaving workshop. The basic workings of a 1930's union rug loom will be taught. Participants will learn about equipment and weaving procedures. They will then have time to weave and finish a project, either a rug or a table runner. All materials are furnished. Space for the workshop is limited to 2 participants. **\$50 if doing the table runner, only one participant allowed. \$60 if doing the rug, with maximum of two participants.**

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Workshop: Making a Pre-Civil War Wallet

Taught by Norman Walzer

Located at the Dairy Building

This workshop will examine types of wallets used in the pre-Civil War period and their uses. Then, participants will be guided through the process of making a tri-fold leather wallet with a strap to hold it together. The leather materials plus thread and needles will be provided along with pre-cut leather pieces to minimize the use of knives. Participants will put a design on the leather and then start to sew the wallet pieces together. Students will know the design, learn the process, and have the materials to complete the project on their own after the class. Printed instructions will be provided.

The finished wallet will be suitable for use in re-enactments or other historical representations from 1830s to 1880s. Participants will need finger dexterity, strength, and vision that allows them to sew leather by hand. When completed they will have a usable period wallet.

Maximum of 6 students will be allowed into this workshop. Maximum of 6 participants. **\$40**

9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Workshop: A Storyteller's Tour of Bishop Hill (with Modern Tech), Making the Most of the Clio App

Facilitated by Brian "Fox" Ellis

Begins at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons

See how the Clio App can be used to tell the story of Bishop Hill as you tour the village. Then, with Fox's help, learn to use the Clio App to tell your site's story. Bring at least 3 digital photographs and 50-100 words per photo of written text for your historic site. A laptop or smart phone is helpful. **\$10**

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Session: Will it Sew? Evaluating, Repairing, and Using Antique Sewing Machines

Presented by Ann Cejka, Program Coordinator at Usher Ferry Historic Village

Located at the Steeple Building Museum

Do you have an antique treadle or hand crank sewing machine in your collection? Are you wondering if it still works or is safe to use and demonstrate? Thanks to the cutthroat business acumen of Isaac Singer, sewing machines were mass produced by the millions between 1890 and 1925, making them both readily available and a far more reliable and affordable option than a modern machine for the basic seamstress on a budget. Learn how to identify the three most common types of early sewing machines. Whether it is a Singer or a lesser-known brand, learn how to date your machine, locate a reproduction manual if yours is missing, and source commonly needed parts such as needles, bobbins, tires, and more. Tips for temperamental brands to avoid and affordable gems to treasure will also be included as well as an opportunity for up close and personal inspection and tinkering with an example of each type of machine.

10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Session: Full Sized Farming on a Quarter Acre Lot

Presented by Jonathan Kuester, Director of Historic Wagner Farm

Located at the Steeple Building Museum

What do you do when you want to interpret agriculture but you only have a small space to do it in? Recreating historic landscapes can be a challenge under the best of conditions but many sites suffer from a lack of space and suburbanization. Learn some tricks of the trade for bringing agriculture to life on the small scale.

Jonathan Kuester has spent most of his life on and around farms. Growing up on a small farm in central Indiana, he spent most of his time exploring his rural environment and looking for its history. Jonathan has worked in the museum and living history field for almost 30 years and has spent most of that time studying agricultural history and rural life. He is currently Director of Historic Wagner Farm in Glenview Illinois.

Silent Auction

Don't forget that the silent auction is Friday evening at the Bishop Hill Creative Commons. It is a great fundraiser for MOMCC so please donate an item for auction. Do not forget to also come to the auction and bid often.

Banquet Meal and Historic Clothing

Wear something Swedish or your everyday historic clothing (any time period) for the Friday evening meal. You may need to wear your historic clothing all day Friday as there may not be time to change right before the meal Friday, but that will add interest to the day. If you don't have anything Swedish, there are Swedish stores in Bishop Hill including the Colony Store where you can buy all sorts of Swedish items. Then you can be creative in how you will wear that item.



Save the Date for the
MOMCC 2024
Fall Conference!

Ushers Ferry
Historic Village
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
November 13-15, 2024

Cultivating Community: Preserving the Past, Serving the Present and Nurturing the Future

Museums rely heavily upon community support, but how do they use their mission of preserving local history to serve and support their communities in return? Join us at Ushers Ferry Historic Village in Cedar Rapids, Iowa as we explore the roots of agrarian communities and how they developed, flourished and -in some cases- faded. From farming villages to the six square mile township district that served rural citizens before the advent of automobiles, good roads and centralized county government, take a deeper look beyond the daily activities of farm life or small-town commerce to explore issues of law, government, education, transportation, social welfare, and how every-day rural citizens stepped forward to serve and build the framework of the Midwest towns and cities that we know today.

MOMCC 2024 Spring Conference Registration Form

Early registration deadline: **March 7**. Please note: MOMCC cannot guarantee placement in workshops for registrations received after March 7.

Please complete all relevant sections of this form. If paying with your Visa, Mastercard, American Express, or Discover card, go to MOMCC.org. Click on Profile, then Login (using your preferred email and password) to complete the process.

If paying by check, make checks payable to MOMCC.

Mail to: **MOMCC Registrar**
Ed Crabb
PO Box 8212
Lafayette, IN 47903

Name: _____
 Position/Title: _____
 Site/Organization: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

- _____ I require vegetarian meals
 _____ I require gluten-free meals
 _____ I have a food allergy (please specify) _____
 _____ I am a 1st time MOMCC conference attendee

A. Full Conference Registration:

*Includes: Thursday reception, Friday & Saturday sessions, events, lunch & banquet

*Vendor Full Registration includes: 1 table, all conference sessions and meals

_____ MOMCC/ALHFAM member	\$100
_____ Postmarked before March 7	
_____ MOMCC/ALHFAM	\$120
_____ Postmarked after March 7	
_____ Non-member	\$130
_____ Postmarked before March 7	
_____ Non-member	\$150
_____ Postmarked after March 7	
_____ TOTAL - A \$	_____

B. Conference A La Carte

_____ Thursday Only	\$20
_____ Friday Only	\$80
_____ Saturday Only	\$10
_____ After March 7th	
_____ After Deadline add an additional	\$20
_____ TOTAL - B \$	_____

- _____ I DO NOT want my information on the participation list.
 _____ I am a vendor and Registered for conference
 _____ I am willing to drive to facilitate car-pooling
 _____ I will bring an item for the auction

C. Workshops

_____ Walking Tour of Bishop Hill (9AM).....	\$0
_____ Walking Tour of Bishop Hill (2PM).....	\$0
_____ Paper Marbling.....	\$15
_____ Silk Ribbon Embroidery.....	\$25
_____ Springerie Cookie Making.....	\$45
_____ Dala Horse Painting.....	\$25
_____ Mug Rug Weaving.....	\$15
_____ Table Runner Weaving.....	\$50
_____ Rug Weaving.....	\$60
_____ Pre-Civil War Wallet Making.....	\$40
_____ Storytelling & Clio App.....	\$10

TOTAL - C \$ _____

D. Memberships

_____ Individual	\$30
_____ Household	\$35
_____ Institutional	\$50
_____ TOTAL - D \$	_____

Grand Total A-D \$ _____
 (Registration continues on back of this form)

MOMCC 2024 Spring Conference Registration Form (Continued)

To help us plan and prepare, please select those sessions you plan to attend.

Thursday March 21

1:30 PM

☐ Dance Fundamentals for historic site interpretation

3:45 PM

☐ Where are the Black Folks

Resource Group Meeting Friday March 22 9:00 AM

☐ Media

☐ Agriculture, Gardens, and Foodways

Resource Group Meeting Friday March 22 10:15 AM

☐ Leadership and Supervision

☐ Interpretation, Music, Art, Material Culture

Friday March 22 2:30 PM

☐ Square Rule Layout (Double Session)

☐ Communicating Agriculture and
Environmental Content

Friday March 22 4:15 PM

☐ Footwear in the mid 19th Century style
and construction.

Saturday March 23 9:00 AM

☐ Will it Sew?

Saturday March 23 10:45 AM

☐ Full Size Farming on a Quarter Acre

Fellowship Application: For each conference, MOMCC provides a limited number of fellowships to help offset conference costs. To learn more visit [visit the MOMCC website](#)



Return to:

MOMCC Registrar

Ed Crabb

PO Box 8212

Lafayette IN 47903

Open at Once – Don't Miss the Deadlines!

Hotel: March 14, 2024

Registration: March 7, 2024