

# HAPPENINGS

July/August 1996

St. Joseph Museum

Pony Express National Memorial

## THIRD RUNNING OF THE TRAILS WEST! PONY EXPRESS STICK HORSE RELAY RACE



*A rider enters the buffalo wallow at Sulphur Springs on the St. Joseph Museum grounds.*



*Emerging from the buffalo wallow, a rider (who has been "shot" with vegetable oil) faces a flour dust storm.*

*The* St. Joseph Museum and Pony Express National Memorial staff created and manned Sulphur Springs relay station for the August 17 race. At Sulphur Springs, the sixth relay station, riders had to face the perils of smoke, oil, mud, and flour. ✂

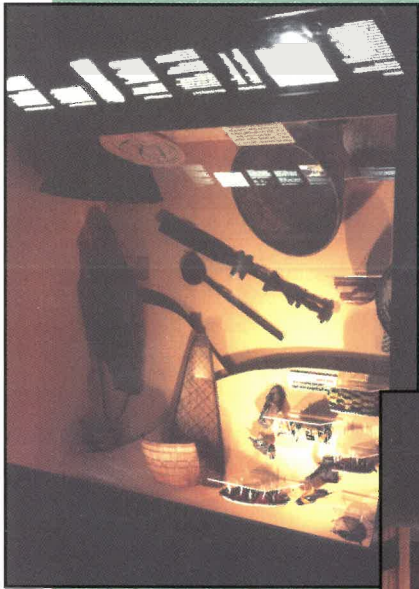
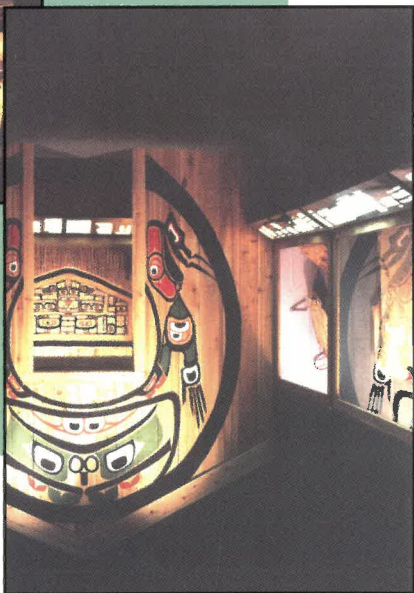
*Photos by Clint Sims*



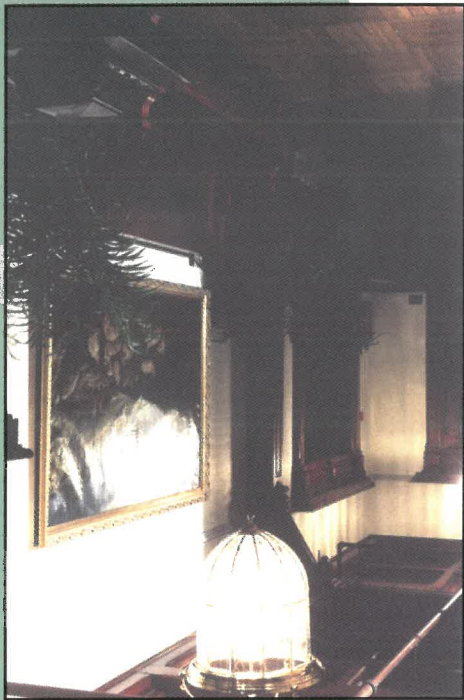
*L. to R.: Staff members Chad Lawhon and Susan Noland proudly pose with the awards presented to Sulphur Springs — Best Station and Best Peril.*

# LATEST EXHIBITS AT THE ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM

Native American exhibits feature artifacts from several cultural areas including Basin, Plateau, Northwest Coast, and California. The facade of a plank house invites visitors to explore the intriguing Northwest culture.



Baskets from various tribes in the California cultural area show some of the many ways Native Americans utilized the containers. The two paddles in the middle of the exhibit were used to stir acorn mush as it cooked in large baskets similar to the one in the lower right hand corner of the picture.



The entry hall has been returned to its former Victorian grandeur. The focal point of the restoration is the beautiful parquetry floor. The large painting over the bench, the Yale of Glencoe, was once owned by M. Jeff Thompson, the mayor of St. Joseph when the Pony Express started and the Confederate Swamp Fox of Civil War fame.

## ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM & PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL MEMORIAL STAFF

### PROGRAM

Rich Nolf ..... Director  
Jackie Lewin ..... Curator, PENM  
Martilyn Taylor ..... Curator of Ethnology  
Carol Willis ..... Curator of Collections  
David Mead ..... Curator of Natural History  
Robbie Sipes ..... Curator of Exhibits  
Sarah Elder ..... Curator of History  
Kathy Reno ..... Museum Shop Manager  
Clint Sims ..... Graphic Artist  
Dee Phillips ..... Director of Marketing & PR

### SUPPORT

Susan Noland ..... Bookkeeper  
Sawaya Kernes ..... Secretary  
June Swift ..... Secretary  
Scott Koch ..... Exhibits Technician  
Chad Lawhon ..... Exhibits Technician  
Dale Brizendine ..... Maintenance Technician  
Albert Bingham ..... Maintenance Technician  
Mary Knab ..... Research Assistant  
Allana Smith ..... Curatorial Assistant/Receptionist  
Georgia Brooks ..... Receptionist  
Lori Calloway ..... Receptionist  
Leonard Elliott ..... Receptionist  
Jerome Goolsby ..... Receptionist  
Marcelene Green ..... Receptionist  
Sharlie Henry ..... Receptionist  
Marge Lawhon ..... Receptionist  
Helen Matthews ..... Receptionist  
Allie Wheat ..... Receptionist

### ADJUNCT

Mike Fisher ..... Archaeological Research Associate  
Jim Feagins ..... Archaeological Research Associate  
Russ Mooney ..... Saddle & Tack Consultant  
Esther Kreek ..... Historical Music Coordinator

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not-for-profit corporations,  
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St. Joseph, Missouri, 64502-0128  
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Fax: (816) 232-8482.  
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# PUMPKINFEST PATRONS PARTY

On August 26, approximately 250 people gathered on the front lawn of the Linden and Beverly Black residence for a fundraising picnic. The funds will be used for the Pony Express Pumpkinfest which will be held on October 12 and 13 at the Pony Express National Memorial, 914 Penn.

In addition to the Blacks who graciously served as hosts, others involved were Mignon DeShon and Karen Foley who planned the menu of barbecued ribs, cucumbers and onions, tomatoes, baked beans, bread, cookies, and ice cream. Also helping were Jan Pray and Karen Graves. Mignon and Karen Foley did most of the food preparation. Dick DeShon cooked the ribs with help from Jeff Black and Robbie Sipes. A special thank you goes to Kevin O'Malley for the donation of the beer.

Norma and Dan Gallagher made and donated a decorative wheelbarrow filled with flowers, a wooden, hand-painted Halloween scarecrow, and a hand-painted bird house for a raffle held during the evening. The three decorative items were samples of what will be available for purchase during Pumpkinfest. Co-chairs of Pumpkinfest are Joe Houts and Norma Gallagher. 🐾

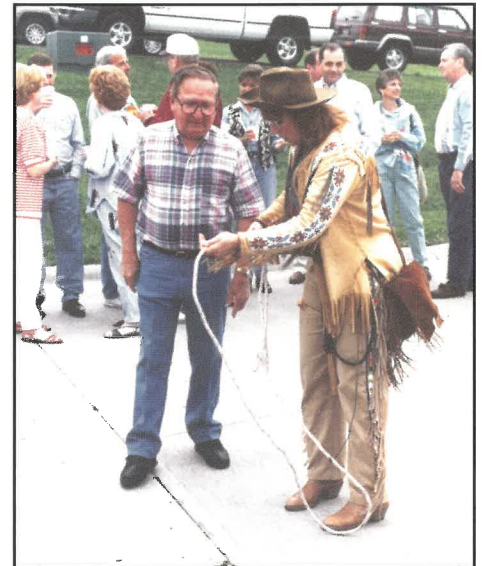


*The afternoon rain subsided in time for Pumpkinfest supporters to enjoy an evening of socializing at the home of Linden and Beverly Black.*

*Photos by Clint Sims*



*L. to R.: Don and Marge Haage chat with host Linden Black.*



*L. to R.: Dick Rochambeau watches as Calamity Jane (Diane Wampler) demonstrates how to use a lasso.*

*L. to R.: Jan Pray and Mignon DeShon count raffle tickets. Pumpkinfest t-shirts, like the ones they are wearing, are available in the museum gift shop.*

# UTAH GROUP CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

After Rich Nolf welcomed the group, Jackie Lewin talked to them about the 1860 Utah Territory Pony Express riders. Sheriff Craig Dearden of Ogden, Utah, spoke about the role of the Weber County Sheriff's Posse. Next, Mayor Larry Stobbs gave an official welcome from the city of St. Joseph and placed a letter of congratulations from the governor of Missouri to the governor of Utah in the mailbag. To conclude the ceremony and send off the first rider, Mayor Stobbs read the speech given by 1860 Mayor Jeff Thompson as he sent Johnny Fry off on the first Pony Express ride. The first rider from the Weber County Sheriff's Posse was Jim Armstrong who left the Stables and headed west amid much cheering.



*St. Joseph Mayor Larry Stobbs hands the saddlebags holding the mail to the first rider, Jim Armstrong.*

emony was the start of a relay along the Pony Express Trail from St. Joseph to Salt Lake City.

The group, which is well-known in their area for their

search and res-

cue missions

and for their

award-winning

horseback pre-

cision drill

team, felt a re-

enactment of

the Pony Ex-

press would

help make oth-

ers aware of

their state's

centennial and

history. Ninety

men on horseback took part in the relay, scheduled to

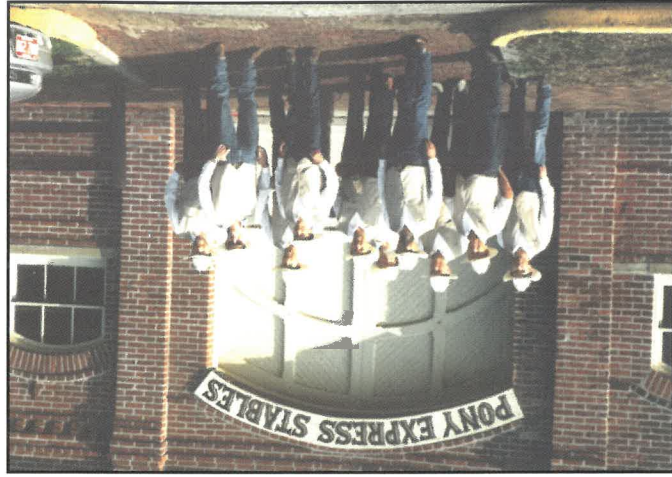
reach Salt Lake City in seven days.



*Sheriff Craig Dearden speaks to the group at the ceremony to send off the first rider.*

men on horseback took part in the relay, scheduled to

reach Salt Lake City in seven days.



*Photos by Rich Nolf*

*Members of the Weber County Sheriff's posse who relayed the mail from St. Joseph to Salt Lake City pose before the Pony Express National Memorial.*

# CALIFORNIA AND PONY EXPRESS TRAILS WORKSHOP

*The* future management of the California and Pony Express National Historic Trails was the subject of a workshop sponsored by the National Park Service (NPS) held in July in Denver, Colorado. Thirty representatives of various federal, state, and local government agencies attended, as well as representatives of the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) and the National Pony

Express Association (NPEA). Jackie Lewin attended as president of OCTA, but she also represented the Pony Express National Memorial as an organization vitally interested in the future of the trails.

One result of the legislation which added the California and Pony Express Trails to the National Historic Trails System was to designate the NPS as the agency responsible for the administration of the trails. A management plan is being developed for administering the trails. As a whole and then in smaller groups, the participants



*Rich Lichtkoppler, a facilitator for the NPS, leads a brainstorming session during a workshop sponsored by the National Park Service. The July workshop, held in Denver, was to formulate objectives for the management of the California and Pony Express National Historic Trails.*

brainstormed to get a list of the objectives of the trail management plan. They then developed specific actions to achieve those objectives. Tools or ideas for carrying out the actions were also discussed. The final draft of the management plan will be available for public review by late fall. Even though the plan will be produced by the NPS planning team, it was created through the cooperative efforts of the NPS, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, OCTA, NPEA, and various state agencies. All groups have a role in the implementation of the plan. Public hearings will be held in our area this fall.

## SHOP TALK

Three new titles from the Voyage of Discovery series have been added to the Pony Express National Memorial's selection of books. This series features beautiful photography along with the story behind the scenery of three trails that are of historical significance to our area.

*The California Trail* follows the gold seekers as they rush to California, the land of new opportunities. This book shares the story of their trials as they cross such inhospitable barriers as the 40 Mile Desert and the Sierras. It tells of their joy as they get closer to their dream. Excerpts from the emigrants' diaries bring their struggle to life for readers a century and a half later. There are 27 maps and 61 color photographs included.

*The Oregon Trail* follows groups of pioneers who sought a better lifestyle as they trekked from Missouri to Oregon in the 1840s and 1850s. Over 27 vignettes are drawn from

diaries and journals telling about life on specific days during their adventure. This volume includes 6 historic paintings, 27 maps, and 56 color photographs.

*The Santa Fe Trail* tells the story of the men of "restless enterprise" who had the courage to create this fabulous road of international commerce by driving wagons across 900 miles to get their cargo to customers a third of a continent away. Journal entries tell of the excitement and despair encountered along the trail by the men and women who made the journey. The publication includes maps and 65 color photographs.



Clint Sims

## Individuals

Carrie Abmeyer  
Dr. & Mrs. Phil Acuff  
Allison Bailey  
Mary Ann Bailey  
Mary Elizabeth Banks  
Helen & Cullen Bonebrake  
Nancy & David Bridenstine  
Jim & Georgia Brooks  
Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Brown, Jr.  
Larry & Kathy Bunse  
Larry & Gayle Burdick  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Clisbee  
Mrs. John Creal, Sr.  
Margaret & Lee Elder  
Jim Feagins  
Mr. & Mrs. Ferris Finley  
Flora Fulton  
Martin Goedken  
Helen Goff  
Jerome Goolsby

John Hoff  
Mr. & Mrs. William Hurley  
Carol Laurent  
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Leamon  
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Dr. Eugene Majerowicz  
Dr. & Mrs. Jim Marston  
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Deanna Swan  
Robert Swift  
John & Diane Watson  
Kelly W. & Randy Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Zombory

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South Nodaway R-IV School  
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Tilton, Thomas, & Morgan, Inc.  
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The Trust Company of St. Joseph  
Bob Siemens

# RECENT DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTIONS

## PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL MEMORIAL

**Mrs. Mary King-Bellis** - a booklet, *St. Joseph Pony Express Celebration*. Held August 25 through September 1, 1923, this celebration was conducted by the St. Joseph Civic Festival Association. The above booklet belonged to the donor's mother, Hazel King-Nixon.

**Cindy Weaver** - a sketch titled "Landscape Proposal East Side Pony Express National Memorial - St. Joseph, Missouri 1994." The donor was the artist of this drawing which shows proposed landscaping on the east side of the Pony Express Stables, including a statue of a horse and rider.

**Ken Payne** - A bronze sculpture, "Neath the Lonesome Summer Moon." This bronze is the fourth and final piece of a series named, "Four Seasons of the Pony Express." The donor is the artist of these sculptures.

**Phyllis Preator** (Sage Creek Annie)- An envelope and paper carried by the Bunk House Outlaws Pony Express Group on the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay.

**Richard A. Rochambeau** - A glass jar found in the alley behind the Pony Express National Memorial. This clear jar has "Pretzinger's Catarrh Balm - Dayton, Ohio" inscribed on it.

**Claude Seek** - A saddle blanket with hide on one side and green wool on the other. The label inside this blanket reads "Manufactured by Cownie Tanning Co. Des Moines, Ia." This saddle blanket was donated in memory of the donor's stepfather, Zed Riggs.

**Morris Werner** - A book, *The Overland Stage to California*, written by Frank A. Root and William E. Connelley.

**Danial R. Watson** - A book, *Archaeological Surveys and Tests at Two Oregon Trail Sites (25 KH 6 and 25 KH 22)* - Nebraska Archaeological Survey Technical Report 95-02. This book was written by Danial R. Watson, University of Nebraska State Museum.

## ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM

**Clark and Nancy Hampton** - a small, leather case which holds a deck of playing cards.

**Kathy Reno** - a pentagon-shaped printer's block with "Wyeth" across the center.

**Shirley Bradley** - Several pamphlets, booklets, and newspaper clippings from around 1890. Also included in this donation were the following newspapers: *St. Joseph Daily Gazette* - September 19, 1882, and *The St. Joseph Daily News* - November 30, 1896; April 4, 1894; and June 9, 1894.

**Thomas L. Donaldson** - A City Map and Street Directory of St. Joseph, Missouri. This map was compiled by W. H. Bonner around 1932.

**Frederick W. Slater** - Several newspapers including *The Atchison Weekly Champion* dated 1871, *The Far West* dated 1836, *Western Pioneer* dated 1844, *Liberty Tribune* dated 1880, *The Liberty Banner* dated 1843, and *The St. Louis Republican* dated 1875. Also donated was the business card the donor used when he was the Editorial Page Editor for the *St. Joseph News-Press*.

**Morris Werner** - Sixty-two items including books, diaries, journals, autobiographies, and maps about individual journeys over the Overland Trail.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**September 10** - Oregon California Trails Association - Gateway Chapter meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Pony Express National Memorial, 914 Penn Street.

**September 29** - Opening of the Bob Sipes Art Exhibit. Opening will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph Museum located at 1100 Charles Street. For more information call 232-8471.

**September 30** - St. Joseph Archaeological Society will meet at 7:30 at the Pony Express National Memorial, 914 Penn Street.

**October 12 & 13** - The Pony Express Pumpkinfest will be held Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., and Sunday, 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Arts and crafts, children's activities, food, and entertainment. Admission is free. For more information call the Pony Express National Memorial at 279-5059.

**November 12** - Oregon California Trails Association - Gateway Chapter meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Pony Express National Memorial, 914 Penn Street.

**November 22** - Christmas Ornament Workshop for children ages 7-12 at the St. Joseph Museum. Held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Call 232-8471 to make reservations.

**November 25** - St. Joseph Archaeological Society will meet at 7:30 at the Pony Express National Memorial, 914 Penn Street.

**November 28** - Thanksgiving. Both museums will be closed.

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**Monday through Saturday 9-5 p.m.**  
**Sunday & Holidays 1-5 p.m.**

## Pony Express National Memorial

914 Penn Street, P.O. Box 244  
St. Joseph, Missouri 64502-0244  
**Monday through Saturday 9-5 p.m.**  
**Sundays 1-5 p.m.**

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