

The Happenings

St. Joseph Museums, Inc. January-February-March 2009

Holiday Preview Party

The Wyeth-Tootle Mansion Holiday Lighting Preview Party drew 42 guests who enjoyed a buffet of hors d'oeuvres, wine, and a martini bar. The party, which was hosted by the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., Board of Trustees, featured the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion dressed up for the holiday season in an exquisite array of holiday finery with a Victorian touch. The event was held on December 4, before the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion Holiday Lighting event for the public, which took place the following evening.



Left: Lee Sawyer, Anthony Drummond, Suzanne Bradley, Max Wyeth, and Theresa Drummond greet each other as the Holiday Lighting Preview Party begins.

Right: Margaret Elder, Lisa Rock, and Mignon DeShon stop to chat during the Holiday Lighting Preview Party.



Holiday Lights at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion



The students from the Hosea Elementary Bell Choir, under the direction of Marcia Wahlert, performed for the Holiday Lighting of the Mansion event.

The St. Joseph community was invited to "Come Home for the Holidays at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion" during the annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony, which was co-sponsored by the Mayor of St. Joseph and the St. Joseph Museums, Inc. Approximately 400 attended the event, which began at City Hall with a processional courtesy of the Green Valley Baptist Church. The processional traveled from City Hall to the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion. At 6 p.m. the lighting of the Mansion for the season took place. Festivities inside the Mansion began with live holiday music by the Hosea Elementary School Bell Choir followed by the St. Joseph Community Chorus Dickens Singers who performed throughout the evening. Visitors toured the Mansion with its holiday decorations, enjoyed carriage rides, children's crafts, refreshments, and met Santa and Mrs. Claus. The event was free of charge.

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Don Reynolds

Don Reynolds, retired Assistant Director of the St. Joseph Museum, passed away on October 15, 2008. He became a member of the staff in 1955 and served as a mentor to others who followed him. Known as an authority on the Pony Express and archaeology, he was also an avid photographer who was responsible for the start of the Museum's large photographic collection. He and his wife Maudie, who passed away two weeks after Don, devoted their spare time to collecting and recording history. Their collection has been donated to the St. Joseph Museums in their honor. Many thanks to their nephew, Richard Thacker, for making this possible and continuing Don's legacy to the Museum and the community.



Don Reynolds served on the St. Joseph Museum staff from 1955 to 1985.

Donations to Collections

Jackie & Jerry Lewin - Items from the 2008 Presidential campaign including campaign buttons, bumper stickers, signs, and a ticket stub from Joe Biden speech

Andy and Susan Meyer - "Big Chief" tablet from St. Joseph's Mead Corporation.

Jack Tootle - 1900 Christening Gown worn by Katherine O'Neill Tootle, daughter of John James and Ella Parker Woodward Tootle, and granddaughter of Milton Tootle, Sr.

Jerry and Ruth Gray - Watercolor of bighorn sheep and pencil drawing of a buffalo hunt by George Flett, former staff artist of the St. Joseph Museum. Male and female Wood Duck mounts and a Woodcock mount.

Virginia Stillman - Scrapbook of the St. Joseph Beauticians Association containing correspondence, news clippings, and photographs of their mid-1960s convention in St. Joseph sponsored by African-American beauticians.

Free Programs Provided through Mobile Museum

Through the Mobile Museum Program, the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., provides free programs to area schools. More than 1,600 students have already participated. American Indian and wildlife food-chain programs were taken to schools in October and November. Underground Railroad and "Lincoln's Life" programs will be offered in January, February, and March. Spring programs will include Westward Expansion and Lewis & Clark. The Mobile Museum is available for all St. Joseph schools. Teachers are encouraged to call 816.232.8471 to schedule a program.

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“Voices from the Past,” Interpretive Tours of Mount Mora Cemetery & the “Midnight Cemetery Crawl”

“Voices from the Past” drew approximately 260 participants in October. Guests gathered at the St. Joseph Museum to tour the Museums and enjoy pumpkin bars, hot chocolate, candy, and popcorn before boarding a bus for Mount Mora Cemetery. They were greeted at the cemetery gate by “Miz Kemper” (portrayed by Suzanne Lehr) who led them through the cemetery where visitors met eight characters who shared the stories of the lives of those they portrayed and the cause of their demise.

A new event, the “Midnight Cemetery Crawl,” which was held on October 31, drew 26 guests who enjoyed a walking tour to selected gravesites. Guide Suzanne Lehr escorted the visitors to the lighted graves of some of St. Joseph’s many fascinating former citizens.



Jim & Suzanne Lehr, Mary Helen Stuber, Maggie Gilbert, Brian Wolfe, John Wiggington, Rebecca Giles, Patrick Squires, and Sharon Kosek dressed to portray their characters for “Voices from the Past.”

Quilt Donation & Program held at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion



Georgellen Mikkelson formally presented her quilts as a donation to the St. Joseph Museum with a special program at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion on November 1. Approximately 46 area quilters attended, and enjoyed viewing quilting techniques from the 1830s to the 1930s. The quilts hold particular significance since they were owned by early Buchanan County settlers.

Georgellen Mikkelson describes one of the quilts as Sarah Elder displays it for the audience.

Questers Meet at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion



St. Joseph Museums Executive Director Jackie Lewin shows a watercolor rendering of an E. J. Eckel design to the Questers during the program.

The Pony Express Questers Chapter 400, an organization that focuses on historic preservation, enjoyed a brunch at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion on October 1. St. Joseph Museum Director Jackie Lewin led the group on a tour of the Mansion and shared plans for future exhibits and renovations. After brunch, Ms. Lewin shared a sampling of items from the recently acquired E. J. Eckel collection. Eckel was one of St. Joseph’s foremost architects.



Members of the Questers enjoy brunch at the Mansion.

The Wyeth-Tootle Mansion at 11th and Charles offers free admission on Sundays during January. Mansion hours on Sunday are 1 to 4 p.m.

New and Renewed Members, Donations, & Memorials

September 16 to December 31, 2008

Renewals

Dr. & Mrs. Philip Acuff
Joanne Anderson
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Andres
Donna Jean Boyer
Barbara Braznell & Michael
DePriest
Jim Carolus – Hillyard Industries
Nancy Clisbee
Marion Davis
Milton & Grace Day
Mr. & Mrs. Rex DeShon
Tom Duggins – The Frame Station
Margaret Elder
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Fitzpatrick
Mr. & Mrs. John Foley
Gillian Matt
Mr. & Mrs. Clark W. Hampton
Marcie & Gary Hazelrigg
Helen Hendra
Joan & John Hickman
Lt. Col. & Mrs. Carrol Hicks
Dr. & Mrs. George Hopkins
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Houts, Jr.
Barbara Hurst
Michele Janorschke
Theodore M. Kranitz
Robert Keatley
Robert & Janie Kemp
Esther Kreek
Geraldine Lawhon
Larry Lucas, Jr.
Thomasine Madget
Dr. & Mrs. James Marston
Barbara & Marilyn Maxwell
Mr. & Mrs. William Mytton
Dr. & Mrs. Wallace McDonald
Mary McGarry
Marvin Nelson
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Robaska
David Roberts – Boehringer
Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.
Mildred Roberts
Lisa Rock
Mr. & Mrs. James Roth
Robert Roth – Hillyard Inc.
Sharon Ruhnke
Dr. & Mrs. John Rushin
Marietta Russell
Gene Sanders

Valerie Schumann
Richard & Dana Spiek
June Swift
Charles H. Taylor Memorial Trust
Wayne & Marilyn Taylor
Kay Temps
Anna Updegraff
Sue Vetter
Susan Wagner
Clyde Weeks
Lucinda Weaver & James Yount
Mary Wiley
Virginia Wilson
William M. Wyeth, IV

New Members

Breanna Baker
Makenna Baker
Bonebrake Vision & Eye Care
Taiya Bryant
Betty Clayton
Bill & Joy Cole
Gloria Davis & Stanley Harris
Bill & Pam Hurley
Gary & Sandy Frazer
Dr. Don & Sheryl Gossett
Loes Hedge
Anna Hill
Scott & Kathleen Hillyard
Lucinda & Raymond Kerns
Jesse Morehouse
Dr. & Mrs. Carlos Moya
Mr. & Mrs. James Murphy
Kenton & Maleea Randolph
Denise Reynolds
Judy Sabbert – Heartland Foundation
Dr & Mrs. Donald Stallard
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Stevens
Staci Thornton
Staci Thornton – IMKO Staffing Company
United Missouri Bank
George Wood

Memorials

Mr. & Mrs. John Foley for Jean Sweet
Mr. & Mrs. John Foley for Ralph DeArmond
Carol Meyer for Ralph DeArmond
Mr. & Mrs. James Lehr for Don Reynolds
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Lewin for Don & Maudie Reynolds
Dr. & Mrs. Ron Wade for Don Reynolds

Financial Donations

Dr. & Mrs. Jimmy Albright
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Mr. & Mrs. Tim Burtner
Mr. & Mrs. Richard DeShon
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Mr. & Mrs. Russell Matt
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Mr. & Mrs. V. Craig Sumner

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Mr. Steve Pankiewicz –
St. Joseph Electric Supply Co.
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Sawyer
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Sumner
Mr. & Mrs. R. T. Turner
Susan Wagner

Calendar of Events

January 18 - Black History Workshop for the Entire Family, Black Archives Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., 2 to 4 p.m. - This make it and take it workshop will feature activities which focus on the Underground Railroad. Regular admission will apply. There is no additional charge for the workshop.

January 22 - Black Archives Hall of Fame Induction, Black Archives Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., 5 to 7 p.m. The honorees for this year are Pastor Lewis and Reverend Constance Monroe. Refreshments will be served and live music will be performed by the New Hope Baptist Church Gospel Choir. The event is open to the public and free of charge.

January 31 - Super Science Saturday 2009, Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 11th & Charles St., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Science educators from Missouri Western State University, local high schools, & Heartland Regional Healthcare will present interactive experiments for students of all ages. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for students.

February 14 & 15- American Girl Doll® Club Trip - The St. Joseph Museum American Girl® Doll Club will take a two-day chartered motor coach trip to the new American Girl® store. (See page 4 for more details)

February 20 through March 20 - "Abraham Lincoln: Self-Made in America" Traveling Exhibit, St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., - This world-class learning-station exhibit features reproduction artifacts from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Regular admission applies. The exhibit is open to the public at no additional charge. **The opening reception will be held on Thursday, Feb. 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. with a program at 6 p.m. by St. Joseph Museums, Inc., Curator of Collections Sarah Elder on "Young Abe Lincoln." The public is invited and admission to the opening reception and program is free. Refreshments will be served.**

February 24 - "Lincoln's War Speeches" Program - St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., - 7 p.m. - Founder of the St. Joseph Border War Society and member of St. Joseph's Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee, Bob Ford, will present "Lincoln's War Speeches." The program is free of charge to the public and refreshments will be served.

March 3 & 10 - "Treasures from the Collections" - St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., 7 p.m. - Museum curators will present a different selection of fascinating artifacts each evening and share the history behind each item. Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

Please call 816.232.8471 for more information on St. Joseph Museums, Inc., events and activities.

St. Joseph Museum
Glore Psychiatric Museum
Black Archives Museum
3406 Frederick, P.O. Box 8096
St. Joseph, Missouri 64508
Monday through Saturday 10-5 p.m.
Sunday 1-5 p.m.

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1100 Charles St.
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Sunday 1-4 p.m. or by Appointment
Call 816.232.8471

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