

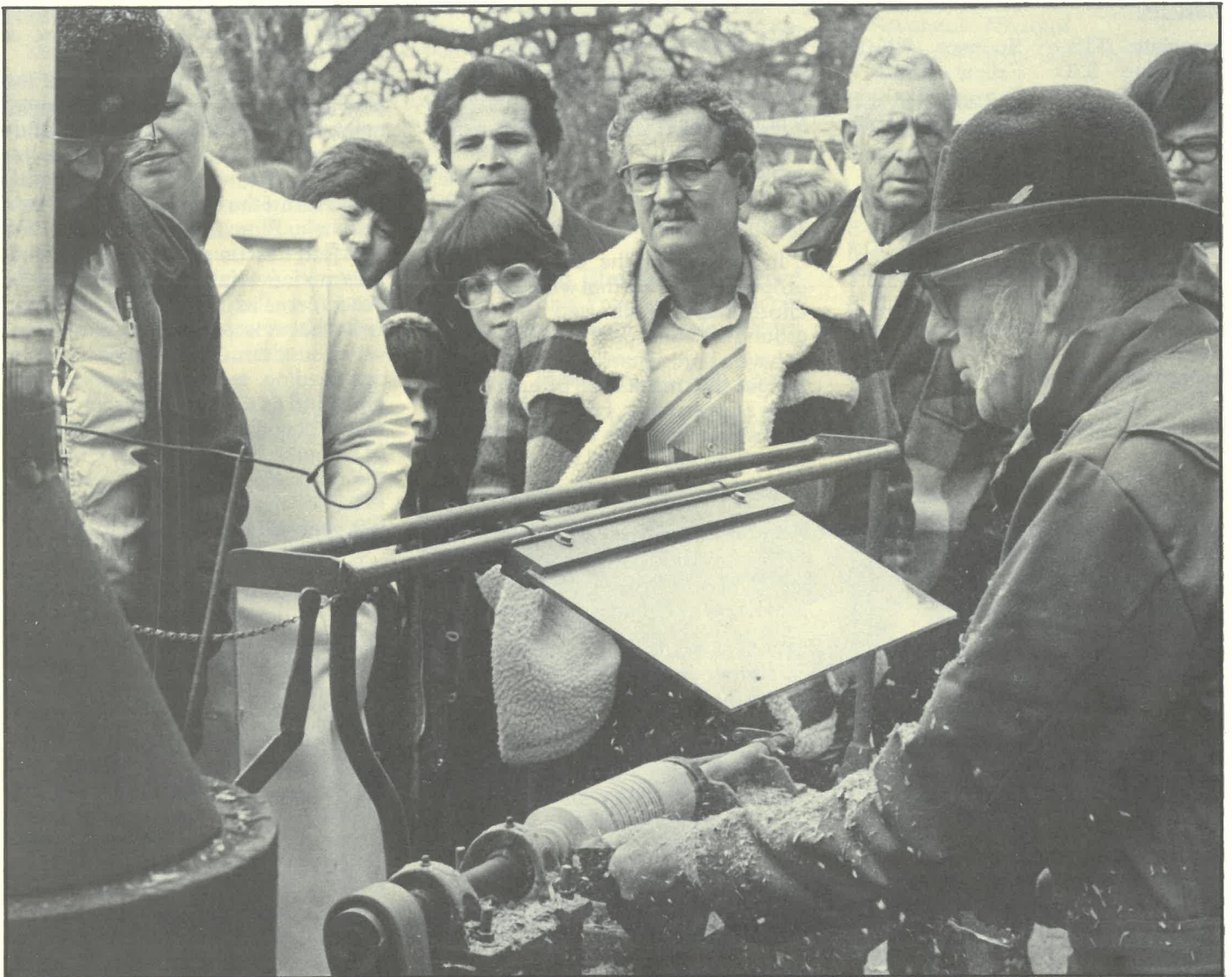
The Happenings

ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM
PONY EXPRESS MUSEUM

Volume 16

1989

Number 4



Prairie View Festival visitors watch Harry Kloppenburg operate the steam lathe.

Photographed by Don Reynolds.

Bonnie Watkins' name was omitted as the author of the article, "Archaeology Exhibit 23BN171," in Volume 16, No. 3. Also omitted in the same newsletter, page 6, was the name of the young "rider" on the replica of the Pony Express saddle and mochila — Tyler Williams, age 2.

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Associate - \$15
Sustaining - \$30
Patron - \$1,000
Benefactor - \$2,500

Annual membership in the St. Joseph Museum:
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Missouri, 64501.

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Marilyn Taylor Curator of Ethnology
Bonnie Watkins Curator of Collections
David Mead Curator of Natural History
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"The Happenings" is published six times a year by the St. Joseph Museum, 11th and Charles Streets, St. Joseph, Missouri, 64501.

STAFF

The decision was made to choose two small manageable areas. One had no grass but plenty of green weeds.

With the conclusion of the exterior and interior renovations, the curatorial staff thought that it was time to concentrate on the grounds. We had always had a good working relationship with Dick Crowl of Crowl's Lawn Service. That good working relationship has continued with Jerry Wayman who recently purchased the company. Jerry, who renamed the service J. J. Wayman Lawn Care, was contacted about how we should go about improving the lawn. A meeting was set up and we discussed various alternatives.

In looking at the overall physical properties, we felt that a concentrated effort must be directed toward the grounds. Years ago the museum used to have a horticulturalist, Andrew "Andy" Sanger, who maintained beautiful flower beds and plantings. Following his death almost twenty years ago, the decision was made not to refill that position as the funds simply were not available. Over the past twenty years a minimal amount of money has been put into the grounds. What money was put in was done so with an eye toward physical security and minimal maintenance.

Over the last several years, the exhibit and staff areas of the St. Joseph Museum have been systematically renovated. Each time this was done, care was taken to meet the needs of the exhibits, the architecture and the staff. We have pretty well finished that renovation with some very minor exceptions.

From the Director



DAVID MEAD

The other had minimum grass. Both areas joined each other on either side of the magnificent blue spruce at the east end of the building. The area filled with green weeds was completely killed out. Several weeks later it was power raked, seeded and covered with straw. Instructions were given to water daily. In that particular patch Bonanza Fescue, a thin bladed fescue, was planted by itself. Fescue grass was chosen as it has a deeper root system and is a much better grass for dryer weather and intense heat. Bonanza Fescue is not a commonly used grass in St. Joseph. It does not exhibit the characteristics of summer dormancy as the Ryegrass and Blue Grasses do. It does require a little bit more maintenance in that it requires more mowing because it grows throughout the season. It does not spread itself like Blue Grass does, so annual seeding is required until a good stand is established. At that point it takes care of itself.

The other patch, to the west of the blue spruce, was prepared in a similar manner except that what little Blue Grass existed was not killed out. In this patch a mixture of Derby Perennial Rye, Penn Fine Perennial Rye, Glade Kentucky Blue, Baron Kentucky Blue and Red Fescue grasses was planted. This mixture is fairly common in the St. Joseph area as it tends to have a green color that most people like. Blue Grass, which sends out rhizomes as a form of self seeding, is strictly a cool season grass and as a result enters into a dormancy period during the hot dry weather of summer. Its dormancy is caused by the relatively shallow root system. An extended drought such as what we had last year will literally burn it out.

By establishing these two different patches side by side, we will be able to make a determination as to which grass we wish to go with overall. Both have their advantages and their disadvantages. Jerry has come out on a regular basis and monitored the progress. He has been a very willing consultant throughout this process. We are pleased about the results; and after Mother Nature opened her skies several weeks ago, we have not had to water daily! It is going to be interesting to see how the two patches develop. By next spring we will have made a determination as to which grass or grasses to go with. Our thanks go to Jerry Wayman of J. J. Wayman Lawn Care for his assistance. ■

Back

PRAIRIE VIEW FESTIVAL '89

Come join us for Prairie View Festival! There have been several additions so this will be the largest festival we have had.

Prairie View Festival was created eleven years ago when the museum board was searching for ideas to promote the St. Joseph Museum. One idea was a festival to draw people to the museum and create awareness of the programs and exhibits offered. At about this same time, Paul Stock came to Rich Nolf expressing the desire to have a crafts festival in this region emphasizing the 19th century skills still being practiced. Paul's idea fit perfectly with the plan that the museum board was developing. Thus began Prairie View Festival.

Many meetings were held to work out the details of the festival. Paul helped immeasurably as our mentor and guide since he had several years experience as a craftsman at Silver Dollar City. Although Paul Stock passed away in 1988, we remember him often. Without his help the first Prairie View Festival would not have been possible. Also involved in those early planning sessions was Glenda Kelly who, ten years later, would become the first woman mayor of St. Joseph.

The first Prairie View Festival was held in mid-November. The staff had no idea how many people would attend or if the weather would cooperate. The weather was beautiful, and the public support was overwhelming! In addition to being fun, the festival more than met the goals of developing museum awareness and educating the visitors about 19th century skills.

The '80 and '81 Prairie View Festivals were also held in November. However, the weather was not as cooperative, and on the third year we had sleet and snow. Craftspeople reported driving home on Sunday night in several inches of snow. Since 1982 all festivals have been held in October – initially on the last weekend, but finally settling on the second weekend after the first Friday,

The first festival was held entirely within the St. Joseph Museum building. Over the years it has expanded to include the carriage house and then a large tent on the grounds. Now there are several tents and prairie huts scattered over the grounds as well as areas

where crafts are demonstrated in the open. Provisions are made so that in case of bad weather, all demonstrations can be under a roof.

In 1983 the staff wanted to enhance Prairie View Festival with a theme and logo. Linda Wilson volunteered to help with this project and the theme "Touch the Past" was originated. In addition, a logo was created and became the symbol of Prairie View Festival. The logo, accompanying this article, features a 19th century pioneer family.

At Prairie View Festival '89 many of your favorite craftspeople will be returning. However, there will be eight new crafts added as well as a new food temptation. Crafts represented are:

Basket Weaving – Marcia Whitt, Bethany, Missouri

Bees and Honey – Laura Vanarsdall, Sibley, Missouri

Broom Making – Dale Bird, Sheridan, Missouri

Candle Making – George Vanarsdall, Sibley, Missouri

Cloth Dolls – Barbara Jones, King City, Missouri

Corn Grinding, Bird Houses and Feeders – Dennis Freeman, St. Joseph

Crocheting – Pam Goode, Orrick, Missouri

Dulcimer Making – Bill Van Dusen, Hale, Missouri

Farrier – Mike Dorssom, Faucett, Missouri

Knife Making – Del Weddle, Stewartsville, Missouri

Leather Working – Dwaine Swink, King City, Missouri

Oil Painting – Fran Thompson, St. Joseph

Pen & Ink – Cindy Weaver, St. Joseph

Pencil Drawing – Carol Ellis, Amity, Missouri

Potpourri – JoAnne and William Bumgarner, Perry, Missouri

Potter – Dooley Lawrence, St. Joseph

Pyrography – Cate Kenny, Skidmore, Missouri

Quilting – Sharon Jestes, Maysville, Missouri

Rag Rugs – Selma and John Grote, Bowling Green, Missouri

Scherenschnitte – Barbara Rudolph, Savannah, Missouri

Spinning – Janey Glick-Holloway, St. Joseph

Stained Glass – Karen Fader, Junction City, Kansas

Steam Lathe – Harry Kloppenburg, Billings, Missouri

Stencil Floor Mats – Chuck and Peggy Rook, St. Louis, Missouri

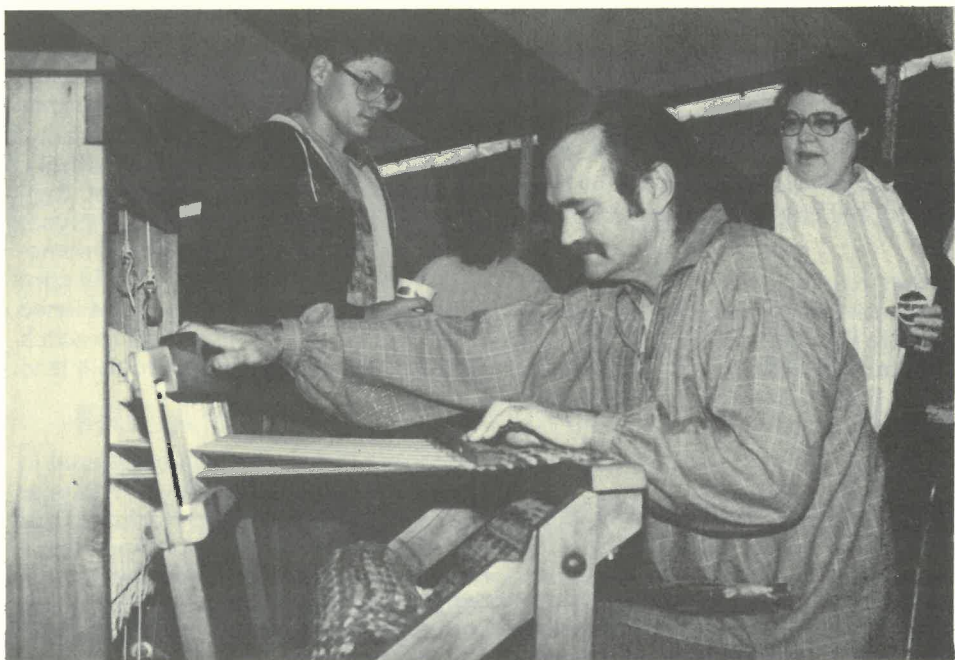
Stencilling – Edie Tuebner, St. Joseph

Toy Making – Sharon Van Dusen, Hale, Missouri

Ukrainian Egg Art – Olenka Prescher, St. Joseph

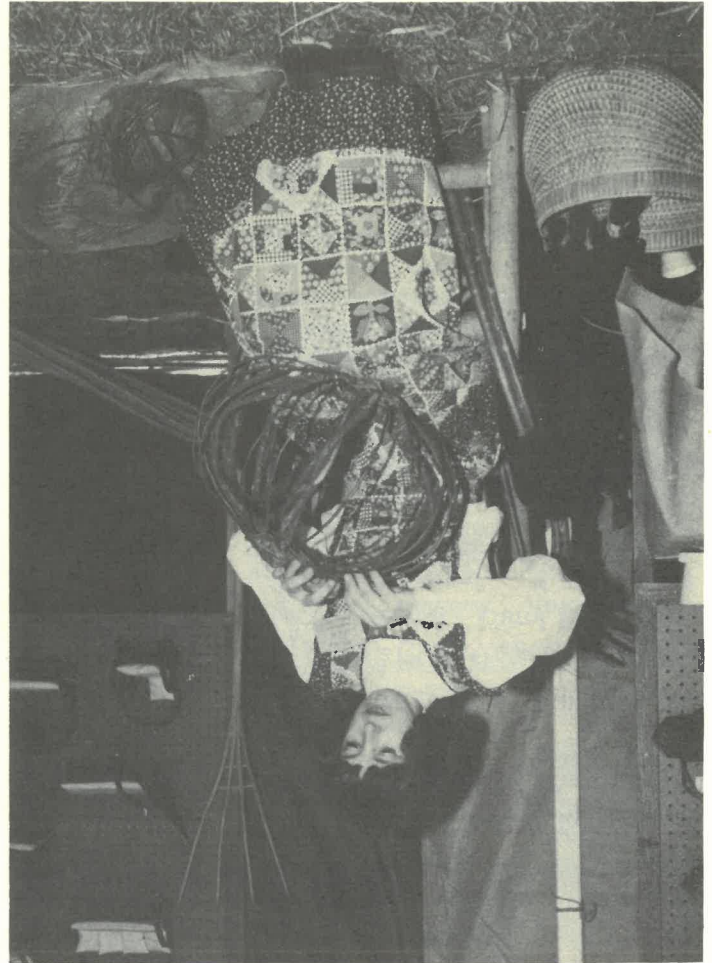
Wheat Weaving – Marian Weyer, Burlington, Iowa

Willow Furniture Making – John Whitt, Bethany, Missouri



John Grote weaves a rag rug on the loom.

Marcia Whitt making a willow basket



JACKIE LEWIN

Wooden Utensils – John Weyer, Burlington, Iowa
Woodworking – Don Brookens, New Berlin, Illinois

Other activities include:

Mule Wagon Rides – George and Olamcorkle, Lathrop, Missouri
Black Powder Demonstrations – Grand River Muzzleloaders

Traditional music and dance, an important part of Prairie View Festival, will be performed throughout the three days of the festival. Those performing are:

Esther Kreek – Kansas City, Missouri, hammered and mountain dulcimers
Charlie Pinzino – St. Joseph, classical guitar

Jerry Fater – Kansas City, Missouri, guitar and banjo
Hayward Hale – Trimble, Missouri, guitar and mandola

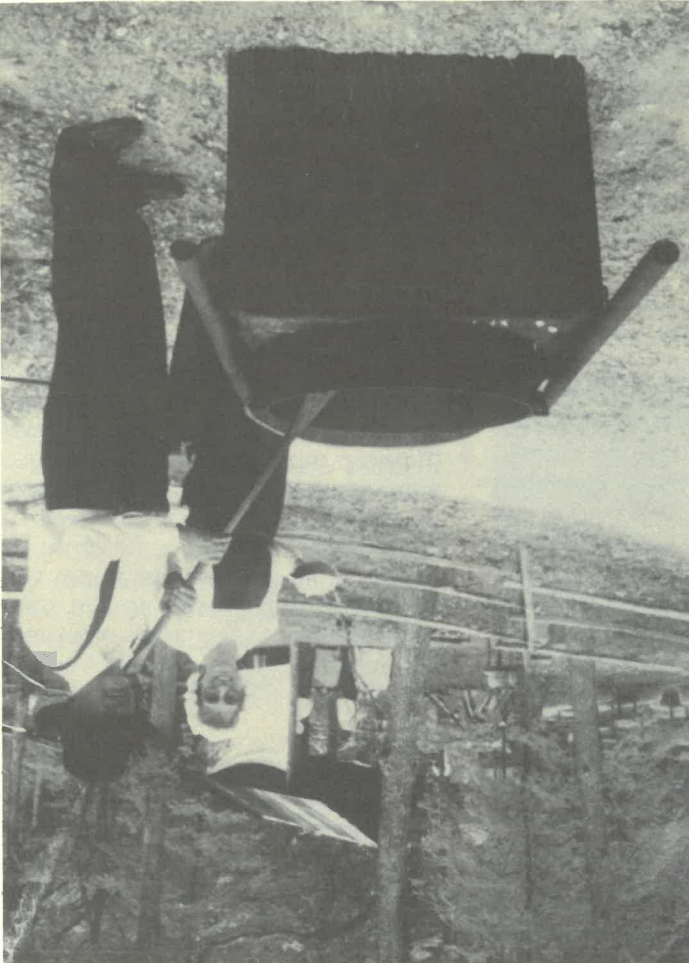
Jim Snyder – Gower, Missouri, guitar
Joe Grable Group – guitars and fiddle
Allan MacFarlane and Lawrence Chapman – Lawrence, Kansas, mountain dulcimers
Missouri Town Dancers – traditional folk dancing

Esther Kreek will present a special program for children several times during the festival.

There will be a variety of "goodies" available during the festival. **Southside Sertoma** will serve barbecue beef sandwiches, hot dogs, polish sausages, soft drinks and the always popular funnel cakes. **Don Thompson** will serve apple cider. **Linda Shell and Nancy Simmons** will provide caramel apples. The ladies **Church** will have a variety of their home baked goods available. This year **Ted and Bonnie Mann** will add something new to the festival – kettle corn (popcorn). They pop it in an old fashioned iron kettle. It is as much fun to watch the popcorn being prepared as it is to eat it.

Home tours will again be offered in conjunction with the festival. This year Jo Ann Johnson of Architectural Tour Consultants will offer a package ticket which includes Prairie View Festival and the Wyeth/Tootle mansion as well as three other Victorian homes. Following is some background information on the tour homes:

Kettle Corn will be prepared by Ted and Bonnie Mann.



COURTESY OF TED AND BONNIE MANN

Wyeth/Tootle/St. Joseph Museum housed in a 43 room Gothic sandstone mansion built in 1879. William Wyeth, the first owner, sold the home to Mrs. Kate Tootle in 1887, and she hired the Louis Comfort Tiffany firm of New York to redecorate. The exquisite stained glass windows blend beautifully with the rich walnut woodwork. An added bonus here of course is Prairie View Festival.

Nave/Johnson Home at 2121 Clay Street. This residence was built in 1889 for Samuel M. Nave by the architectural firm of Eckel and Mann. The red brick, Queen Anne Romanesque Revival mansion is said to be the work of designer Harvey Ellis. It took two years to complete the home which features nine fireplaces and three full floors. The third floor was used as a ballroom and has a stage. A curved stairway is highlighted by a curved Tiffany stained glass window which extends two floors. The second floor bathroom still has the original fixtures including a large bathtub on marble feet. At the rear of the property is a carriage house containing the original horse stalls and tack room. The home is owned by Harold and Jo Ann Johnson.

Kemper/Miller Home at 15th and Francis Streets sitting on top of a hill with a view of downtown and the Missouri River. The exterior reflects Queen Anne styling of soft red brick and a slate roof. Built by Charles Kemper and his wife Mary, the home was occupied by their descendants until 1975 when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. John D. Miller. The Millers have worked to restore the interior to its original appearance.

Parry/Motter/Chambers and Kirwin Home at 2101 Faraon, a brick, Queen Anne dwelling built in 1888 for Guerdon Parry. From 1915 until the early 1960s, it was the home of the Samuel I. Motter family. At the rear of the property is a one and one-half story brick and frame carriage house. Paul Chambers and Cliff Kirwin, current owners, have spent four years in restoration of the 101 year-old mansion.

Tickets for the homes tour can be purchased at the front door of the St. Joseph Museum during the regular Prairie View Festival hours. The cost is \$10 for adults and free to children 12 and under when accompanied by an adult.

Don't miss the fun, food, music and crafts on October 20, 21 and 22. It will be a great weekend. See you there! ■



John Weyer hand carves a wooden spoon.

JACKIE LEWIN

Volunteers for PVF Needed

Volunteers are needed during Prairie View Festival on October 20, 21 and 22 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) to help take admission and serve as relief people so craftspeople can take breaks. In addition, some volunteers are needed in the days prior to the festival to help with preparations. If you have a free day or just a few hours to donate, please contact Bonnie Watkins at 232-8471. ■

TOUCH THE PAST



PRAIRIE VIEW FESTIVAL '89

AT THE

ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM

CRAFTS, MUSIC, FOOD & FUN

OCTOBER 20, 21, 22

FRIDAY
10 - 6

SATURDAY
10 - 6

SUNDAY
10 - 6

OVER 30 19th CENTURY SKILLS DEMONSTRATED WITH UNIQUE HAND CRAFTED QUALITY ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

ADMISSION EACH DAY. \$2.00 per person. **FREE** to children under 12 when accompanied by an adult. **FREE** to members of the St. Joseph Museum.

PRESENTED BY THE **ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM**, Rich Nolf, Director.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

St. Joseph Museum • 11th & Charles • St. Joseph, MO 64501 • Phone: 816/232-8471

highlight of the field trip that included Three Island Crossing as a part of its itinerary was the actual fording of the Snake River by a dozen ranchers on horseback. They first crossed from north to south and then back across to the north using the same general route as the early emigrants.

When Rich got back from Boise he reported that he had anticipated that a few people would compliment him on OCTA '88 in St. Joseph. What he wasn't prepared for were the 50 or 60 people who spoke very highly of the '88 meetings, mentioning the good times, the programs and the intricate logistical planning. He said it really made him feel proud of the museum staff and of the Gateway Chapter members and other volunteers who helped to make OCTA '88 a success.

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It has been five years since the St. Joseph Museum sponsored "Touch the Past" with Esther Kreek on the hammered dulcimer, and we are pleased (and surprised) to announce that the recording is still selling steadily. We knew when we entered the project with Esther that it would produce a quality product, but we did not anticipate a continuous market.

The project began in the spring of 1984 when Esther and the St. Joseph Museum entered a partnership to preserve some of the music which was a part of the westward expansion during the 19th century and to provide a teaching tool for school teachers in the areas of history and music. The recording, "Touch the Past," was the result. The majority of the recording featured music played on the hammered dulcimer by Esther. The recording (record or cassette tape) was packaged with a booklet containing the name of each musical selection followed by a brief historical description of that piece and the melody line score with chords. If the piece was a vocal number, the words were included. The booklet also featured a diary written by Esther which served to introduce the music as well as convey the feelings of a pioneer mother as she traveled west from St. Joseph in 1860. Each musical selection on the recording was researched to insure that it was pre-1860. The diary was written by Esther to be compatible with the style of a pioneer woman on the trail. Esther read numerous diaries written by pioneer women in the 1840s and 50s before she began.

Several other performers were featured in various selections on the recording: Dale Sullivan, fiddle; Holly Baker, guitar; Jerry Faier, banjo and



Esther Kreek playing the hammered dulcimer.

guitar; Hayward Hale, mandola; Everett Turpin, guitar; Heidi Bowman, vocal and guitar; United Methodist Church of Oregon, Missouri, vocal; John Scheuch, vocal; and the 2nd and 6th grades of Pershing Elementary School, St. Joseph, Missouri, vocals.

When the recording was ready to market early in 1985, thousands of brochures were sent to elementary

schools in states crossed by the Oregon-California Trail. Evidently, "Touch the Past" had hit its market because numerous orders began coming in to the St. Joseph Museum. Another popular market was historic sites along the trail including Fort Laramie National Historic Site in Wyoming and End of the Trail Interpretative Center in Oregon City, Oregon.

In addition, Esther has become increasingly in demand for programs and workshops in various parts of the country. She takes 20 or 30 copies of "Touch the Past" with her when she goes and usually comes back sold out. The recording has also been advertised in magazines targeted for those interested in folk music or dulcimers.

The museum recently ordered another shipment of cassette tapes. Cassette tapes have proven to be much more popular than records, so when the initial order of records was depleted, it was decided that all future orders would be for cassette tapes only. When the tapes arrive they have to be packaged with the booklet before they can be sold. In the picture accompanying this article, several staff members are shown working at Prompt Printing Company after hours using a packaging machine to make 500 cellophane wrapped packages each containing a cassette tape and a booklet. The day after the packaging session a backorder for 50 copies was mailed. "Touch the Past" may keep surprising us for years. ■

DON REVOLDS



Packaging "Touch the Past" — Robbie Sipes, Rich Nolf and Marilyn Taylor.

JACKIE LEWIN

OCTA '89

Chapter of OCTA, did attend the meetings.

Rich thought the meetings were very interesting and enjoyed visiting the area, particularly since this was a part of the country he had not passed through for a number of years. The trails in Idaho are varied. The Oregon Trail crosses diagonally to the west, northwest, in the southern part of the state. Some of the major obstacles were the Snake River, the Snake River Canyon and the lack of water. One can appreciate how the pioneers felt when they looked down a seven hundred foot drop to the floor of the canyon where the Snake River ran. They had to have water for their livestock and for their own consumption. Furthermore, they had to cross the Snake River on the way to Oregon. There was water, but they couldn't get to it. As a result, the emigrants developed several alternate trails to cope with the situation.

The California Trail from St. Joseph met the Oregon Trail from Independence several miles west of Marysville, Kansas. The two trails ran together until just after they entered Idaho. There the California Trail turned to the southwest into Utah and across Nevada and the Sierras into California. The Oregon Trail continued west across Idaho into Oregon. In addition to the two main trails, there were also several freighting routes that intersected and complemented the main trails and their alter-

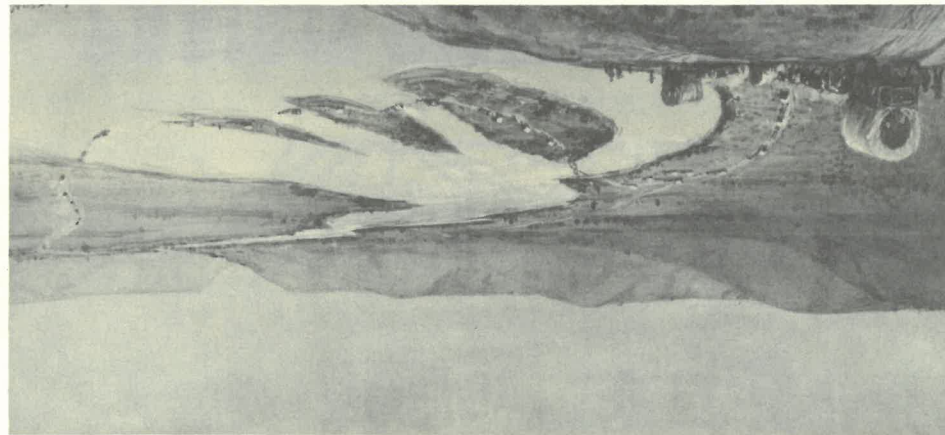
The OCTA field trips took the participants out to a number of sites going as far east as the City of Rocks, a national monument southeast of Twin Falls, and as far west as the Oregon state line. These field trips gave participants an opportunity to see and walk different segments of the historic trails. The City of Rocks was a geological formation that almost every emigrant diarist wrote about. It truly is a phenomenon rising out of that desert country. The Snake River Canyon at Twin Falls was also impressive to see.

As mentioned earlier, the crossing of the Snake River was a major problem for the emigrants. However, a place on the Snake River near present-day Glens Ferry, Idaho (established as a crossing in later years), had three elongated islands side by side. The emigrants used these islands as a crossing, and the site became known as the Three Island Crossing. In later years, Henry Jackson made the spot famous through his painting of the same name. The

help of the museum staff and members of the local Gateway Chapter of OCTA, Rich coordinated the many events associated with the annual meeting of the national organization. Those of you who have been museum members for a number of years will remember the many articles written regarding OCTA '88.

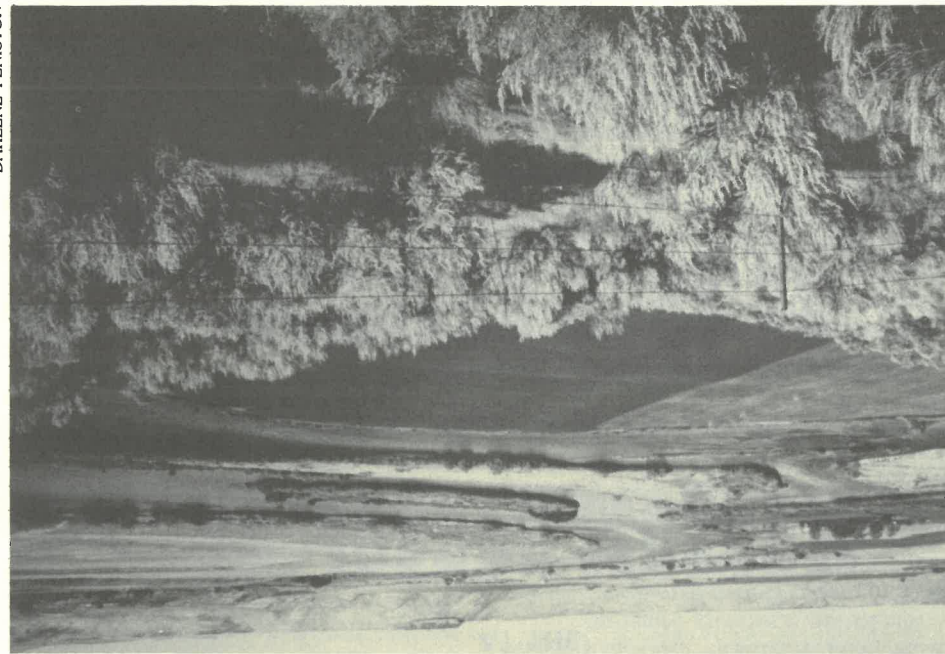
Jackie Lewin, Curator of History, was scheduled to go, but due to an illness in her family, she had to cancel at the last minute. However, several other individuals from the St. Joseph area, all members of the Gateway

OCTA '89, the seventh annual meeting of the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA), took place in Boise, Idaho, during the week of August 8 - 12, 1989. Rich Noff attended that meeting and did so with a certain level of relaxation! He said that the most frequent statement made to him was, "I'll bet you're enjoying this conference!" Those statements, of course, referred to the fact that Rich had no responsibilities for this year's meetings. This was in contrast to last year when he was Local Arrangements Chairman for OCTA '88 in St. Joseph. Last year, with the



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COLLECTION

"Three Island Crossing," a watercolor by William Henry Jackson.



DARLENE PENISTON

"Three Island Crossing," a picture taken at OCTA '89.

highlight of the field trip that included Three Island Crossing as a part of its itinerary was the actual fording of the Snake River by a dozen ranchers on horseback. They first crossed from north to south and then back across to the north using the same general route as the early emigrants.

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DON REVOLD



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JACKIE LEWIN

The Young Riders

of the NPEA rode horses as far as the Missouri River and then returned to Patee House for another autograph session. Although the actors returned to filming Monday, the mochilla containing the letters from Mayor Kelly and Rich was taken to sites in each state the Pony Express crossed so the NPEA could re-enact a five mile symbolic return.

The hour-long series, "The Young Riders," had a special showing on ABC on Wednesday, September 20, at 7:30. The series premiered in its regular day and time period on Thursday, September 21, at 8:00 ■

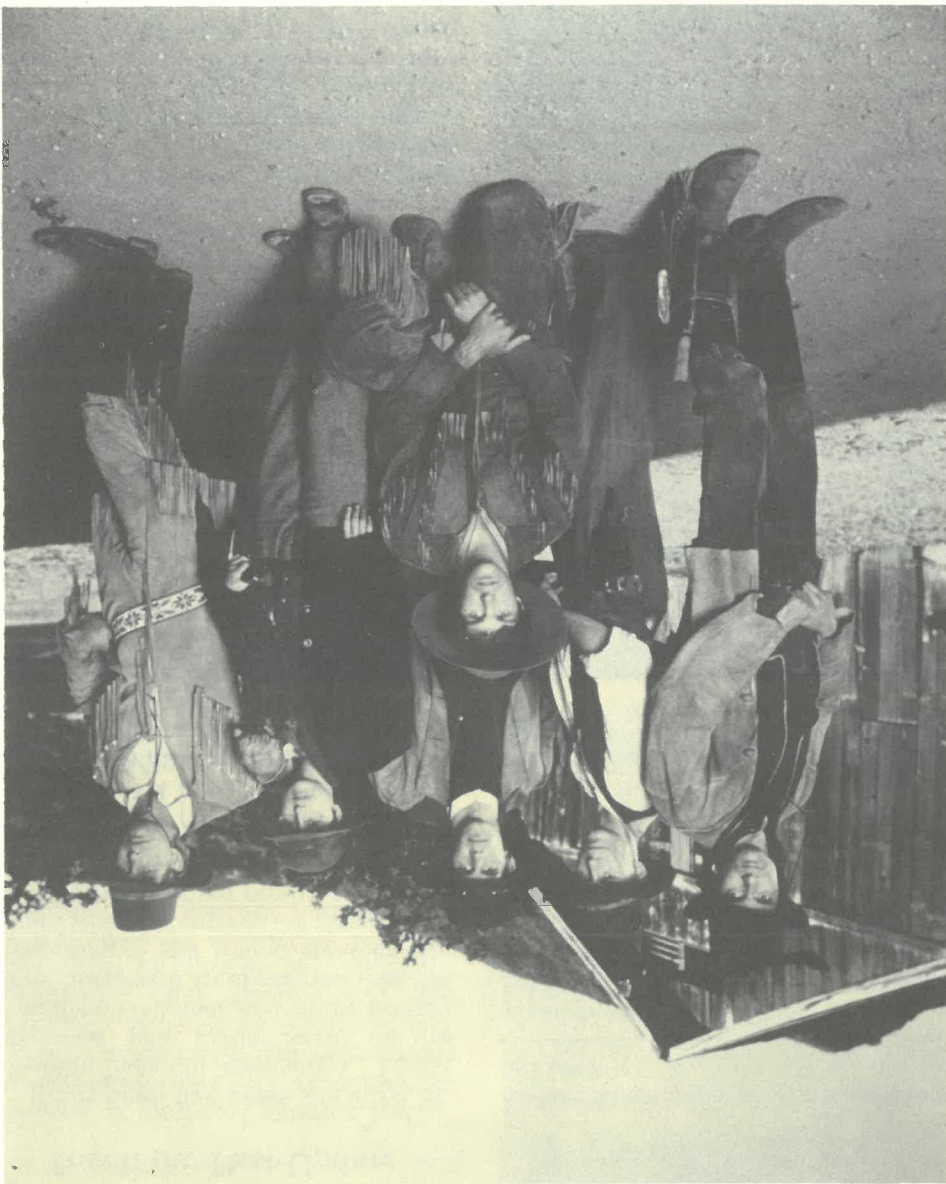
The four stars and several members components of the National Trails System Pony Express National Historic Trail and California National Historic Trail and Trails System Act to designate the bill 1109 is to amend the National sorts of house bill number 1109. House from Rich Nolf to each of the 35 sponsors of Sacramento and thank you letters carrying the mochilla which contained a letter from Mayor Kelly to the mayor Kelly. Yvonne Suhor rode the horse where they repeated the Pony Express Stables up Penn Street to Patee House and rode out of the Pony Express

Around the middle of July, Rich Nolf received a call from Trish Cardoso of Wasserman & Associates, Beverly Hills, California. Trish's firm had been hired to handle the publicity for a television series, "The Young Riders," about the adventures of several Pony Express riders. As part of the PR surrounding the premiere of the series, Trish was putting together a "symbolic Pony Express route re-enactment" which would involve the actors in the series. Since Rich is director of the Pony Express Museum, she called him for his assistance. Rich assured her of our cooperation and the availability of the Pony Express Stables for the re-enactment. He also gave Trish the names and phone numbers of other persons who could help her including Gary Chicote, Director of Patee House Museum; Ken Martin, president, and Francis Peniston, member, of the National Pony Express Association (NPEA); and Dwane Durst of the Hollenberg Pony Express Station in Hanover, Kansas.

After talking to Trish, Rich called KQTV (the local ABC affiliate) to discuss the project. Coincidentally, the series had been discussed at the KQTV staff meeting that morning. Although the staff at KQTV knew the series was going to be on the fall schedule, they had no details because they were having difficulty determining who was handling PR. Libby Connors of KQTV was delighted that Rich could give her Trish Cardoso's phone number. KQTV and Libby were very helpful in seeing that the event was publicized locally as well as providing video tape for a CNN report.

Despite the handicap of having to work long distance, Trish was able to coordinate the re-enactment. She arrived in St. Joseph the day before the event accompanying her were Kim Reed, Vice President of Advertising, Publicity, Promotion, at MGM/UA, and Rosalind Jarrett, Director of Program Publicity, ABC Public Relations, West Coast.

Four of the stars of the series, Ty Miller, Josh Brolin, Travis Fine and Yvonne Suhor, came to St. Joseph on Sunday, August 27. They arrived at the Pony Express Museum around 2:30 to autograph posters for a large group of fans awaiting them. After the autograph session, the four actors mounted horses provided for them by the NPEA



"The Young Riders" - left to right: Gregg Rainwater, Yvonne Suhor, Ty Miller, Josh Brolin, Travis Fine, Josh

New Arrivals in the Gift Shop

The St. Joseph Museum Gift Shop has had several new arrivals this fall beginning with a new line of unusual plush toys from the Russ Berrie Company. The new additions, in plush, include raccoons, bison, moose and Brewster the Rooster. Also new to the shop is a collection of miniature ceramic animals from Hagen-Renaker, Inc. There are farm animals as well as otters, brown bears, panda bears, seals, cats, dogs and mice. They are the perfect size for shadow boxes or doll houses.

Other new items include unique ceramic "Folk Art" magnets, matted Remington prints and a wide variety of jewelry. There are beads made of lace, agate, picture jasper and leopard jasper. In addition to amber earrings there are both beads and earrings of jade, amethyst, garnet, tigereye and crystal.

When you are in need of something beautiful and different, it is a good idea to check the St. Joseph Museum Book and Gift Shop. Remember, as a member you will receive a 20% discount on all purchases. ■

artiFACTS

The photograph accompanying this article is of a portrait of Mahaskah, Chief of the Iowa. The portrait, which is on exhibit on the first floor of the St. Joseph Museum, was painted by L. ShopShee. ShopShee's painting is a copy of an oil painting done by artist Charles Bird King in Washington, D.C., in 1824.

Mahaskah, accompanied by several of his wives and Indian agent Benjamin O'Fallon, had journeyed to Washington, D.C. in 1824 to negotiate treaties between the Iowa and the United States Government. Mahaskah's older wives (jealous of the youngest, beautiful Rantchewaime) were constantly fighting among themselves. According to O'Fallon's account, they fought with fists, clubs and knives on canal boats, stagecoaches and horseback. When the party finally arrived in Washington, Mahaskah told Indian agent O'Fallon he was sick of all women.

Archaeology Dig At the Pony Express Museum

In June of this year an archaeology excavation was begun in the "back yard" of the Pony Express Museum. Since plans are being made to expand the Pony Express building, it was decided that the excavation should be done before construction begins. The purpose of this dig was varied. The main goal was to locate the foundations of the original 1858 wooden building erected on this site. From newspaper accounts of the period, it was learned that the building was twice as long as the present brick structure. Another goal was to locate the floor level of the old stables. No one knew what the original floor was. It was probably dirt, but it would be nice to know for sure. A final goal was to preserve any artifacts found in the process of the dig.

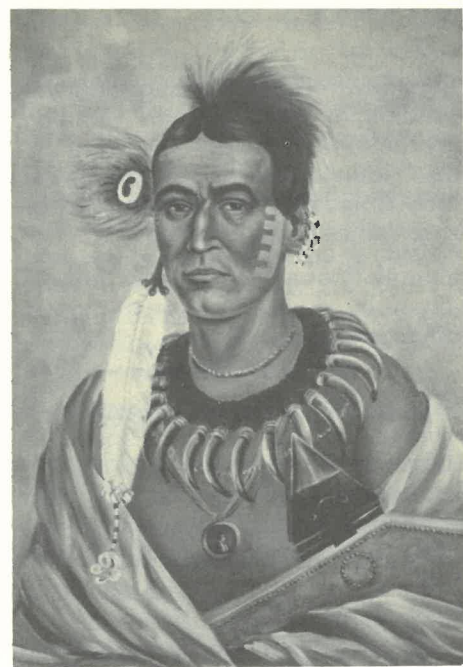
Mike Fisher was asked to be the coordinator of the dig – a volunteer position. Mike has been active in the past with both archaeology and the museum so he was a natural for this position. Ed Barlow has been another active volunteer on this project. His expertise in archaeology has helped to

take some of the pressure off Mike. Bonnie Watkins and Jackie Lewin have represented the staff at the dig. Both Marilyn Taylor and Marcus Eckhardt have also assisted at different times. However, Mike, Ed, Bonnie and Jackie have been there most, if not all, of the time.

Volunteer diggers from the St. Joseph Archaeology Society include Calvin Lewman, Dorothy and Gene Norton and Lester Watkins. Others have helped with the digging for limited periods. The museum certainly appreciates the assistance that was given during this project. Many long, hot hours were spent there this summer and fall.

The results of the dig will be the subject of a later article. Many interesting finds have been made. However, as with any archaeology dig, it has created as many questions as it has answered. If there are still questions to be answered and time is available, the dig may be resumed in the spring. ■

O'Fallon and Mahaskah and his wives stayed at Tonnison's Hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue. One night after finishing a jug in the hotel's bar, Mahaskah went upstairs to his room. A short time later agent O'Fallon heard screams and the sounds of smashing furniture. He rushed upstairs and broke in the door. Mahaskah was beating his quarreling wives with the leg of a chair. Not wanting to be disgraced as a man unable to control his family, Mahaskah yanked open the window and stepped out as O'Fallon rushed into the room. Used to living in a tepee, Mahaskah had forgotten he was on the second floor and fell to the courtyard breaking his arm. His portrait was painted shortly afterward, and, as the Superintendent of Indian Trade, Thomas McKenney, pointed out, "a compression of his eyebrows . . . was caused by the pain he was enduring whilst the artist was sketching his likeness." ■



Mahaskah, Chief of the Iowa

DON REYNOLDS

Welcome, Pat Kruse

We would like to welcome Patricia Kruse to the staff of the St. Joseph Museum. Pat has taken over the position of administrative secretary. Since August when she began, she has exhibited some special talents in the office and a great sense of humor — both of which she will need to relate to this position. It is nice to have her on board. ■

Donors

Mrs. Herbert Haskins — circular linen tablecloth given to her at her marriage in 1940. Cloth dates to c. 1900.

Nancy H. Hampton — Invitation to the Inauguration of George H. W. Bush as president and James D. Quayle as vice president, dated January 20, 1989.

Franklin A. Flesher — Book, **Topographic Symbols**, Army Field Manual; Book, **Don't Get Lost**, Army Training Aid; Book, **Map Reading and Land Navigation**, Army Headquarters.

Pauline Goodell — 17 documents from c. 1900, four magazines c. 1920s, five miscellaneous items.

Jim D. Feagins — seven pamphlets and papers, nine newsletters of the Kansas Anthropological Association, and a book, **A Cultural Resource Survey of a Proposed Access Road . . . Kearney, Clay County, Missouri**, all having to do with the archaeology of the area.

Ron Koehler — Book, **The Exploring Expedition To The Rocky Mountains, Oregon, and California**, and newspaper clipping from "The Kansas City Star" January 5, 1921.

Edna Humphrey — Two newspaper clippings, one from 1938 telling about the founders of the Plymouth Clothing Co., the other from 1935 showing the "new" lounge and terrace cafe at the Hotel Robidoux; also a post card of Jesse James home c. 1910.

James R. Ross — Book, **I, Jesse James**, written by donor who is the great grandson of Jesse James.

Winter Hours

The St. Joseph Museum began winter hours on October 1. Winter hours are 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays and holidays.

The Pony Express Museum is open 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturdays and 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sundays.

Groups of 20 or more can visit the Pony Express Museum by making an appointment at 232-8471. ■

Cecil Schneider

On July 25th the staff was saddened to learn of the death of a friend of the museum, Cecil Schneider. During the last several years Mr. Schneider had spent a great deal of time sharing with the staff his knowledge of the part of the California Trail known as the St. Joe Road. Mr. Schneider was born on a farm in Marshall County, Kansas. Although he did not realize it until a couple of years ago, the St. Joe Road had passed through that farm. When Mr. Schneider discovered that information, it sparked an intense interest in learning more about the old emigrant trail. Staff members (Jackie Lewin and Marilyn Taylor in particular) spent many hours with him, either in a car driving over old forgotten roads of Doniphan County, or just sitting and talking about the trail route. It was obvious that he had done a lot of reading over the years and that history was not his only interest.

Mr. Schneider was a farmer by occupation. Besides owning farmland near Ottawa, Kansas, he and Mrs. Schneider developed the large Buffalo Hollow Ranch in northern Doniphan County. It was a true pleasure to have known and shared an interest with Cecil Schneider. His ingenuity and dry wit never ceased to amaze the staff.

We extend our sincere sympathy to his family. The Gateway Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association has established a Cecil Schneider Fund at the Doniphan County Library in Troy, Kansas, for the purchase of books about the trail or local history. Donations can be made directly to the library. ■

New Perspective On an Old Trail

Clark Hampton recently took staff members Rich Nolf, Marilyn Taylor and Jackie Lewin on a delightful trip to Missouri River ferry crossings and sites along the St. Joe Road. In a little under two hours they covered several hundred miles going up the Missouri River as far as Falls City, Nebraska, then south to Hiawatha, Kansas, and then back to St. Joseph along the trail. However, Clark did not break any speed limits since he was piloting a plane, not driving a car. What a way to get an overview of the land which the pioneers took days to travel.

Autograph Party for New Jesse James Book

On August 4, 1989, the St. Joseph Museum held a reception for California Superior Court Judge James R. Ross, author of the new book, **I, Jesse James**. The reception, at which Judge Ross autographed copies of his book, was attended by approximately 60 people who braved high temperatures and extreme humidity. To help fend off the heat, the museum provided cold lemonade and cookies. In addition to signing autographs while at the reception, Judge Ross was interviewed by both KQTV and Frederick W. Slater of St. Joseph's News-Press/Gazette.

Judge Ross is the great-grandson of Jesse James. Until he was 25, the author lived with Jesse James' son, Jesse James, Jr. While growing up in the James household, Judge Ross often heard stories of Jesse James from his mother, grandfather, aunt and other relatives. When writing, **I, Jesse James**, Judge Ross drew upon these stories, an unpublished manuscript written by his mother and some hand written notes from Billy Judson, who rode with Jesse James for eight years.

The museum has copies of **I, Jesse James** available for sale. Several signed copies are available at the museum gift shop. The price of the book is \$29.95. With their 20% discount, St. Joseph Museum members pay only \$23.95. ■

Spring and Summer Tourism

The spring and summer months are particularly busy at the St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums. During the months of May and June, 105 groups came to the museums, bringing a total of 4,654 visitors in scheduled groups. The majority of spring tour groups are school children. School groups are always admitted free of charge to both the St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums.

The summer months bring busloads of visitors on organized tour company visits. In addition to those companies who visit each summer, we have three new companies planning to include the St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums in their summer trips. Grand Tours from Boxholm, Iowa, Whatatour from Kansas City, Kansas and Great Outdoors Tours from the state of Texas are all scheduled for this summer.

In addition to tour groups, an increase in the number of out-of-town visitors occurs during the spring and summer months. Vacationers are particularly interested in the history of St. Joseph. They frequently ask about our beginnings, the Pony Express and the architecture in St. Joseph. They are also willing to share interesting tidbits about the area where they live. However, you don't have to be a vacationer or tour group to visit the museums. We encourage you to visit the museums in St. Joseph on a mini-vacation of your own home town.

Jesse James In Museum Exhibits

Marilyn Taylor represented the St. Joseph Museum at a panel discussion that was a segment of the program of the annual meeting of the Friends of the James Farm. The meeting began at 9:00 on Saturday, August 5, at the Clay County Court House in Liberty, Missouri. Milt Perry, who is Executive Director, Friends of the James Farm, in Kearney, Missouri, was the panel moderator as well as organizer of the annual meeting. Other members of the panel were Gary Chilcote, Director of Patee House Museum and the Jesse James Home in St. Joseph; Jack Wymore, owner of the Jesse James Bank Historic Site in Liberty; Jay Groves, representative from the Winston Historical Society; and Jackie Wilson, one of the organizers of the Jesse James Museum in Adair, Iowa.



DAVID MEAD

A school group leaves the Pony Express Museum.

The subject of the panel discussion was "How to Portray Jesse James in Museums." During the discussion, Marilyn emphasized that all exhibits at the St. Joseph Museum are based on research and present a factual picture. By the end of the presentation it was clear that all of the participants agreed with each other—the Jesse James saga should not be romanticized or whitewashed, the facts should speak for themselves.

The afternoon session began with the preview of "The Truth of a Legend," a new video about Jesse James produced by Phillip W. Steele. Other speakers on the day's program included Larry Bradley, author of **The Making of a Legend: The Movie, "Jesse James,"** and Judge James R. Ross, great grandson of Jesse James, who told about the James family's reaction to the film at the time it was made in 1939. In order to show the film, the evening session of the meeting was held at the Kansas City, Kansas, Granada Theatre where the movie "Jesse James," was also shown in 1939. ■

New Book on Jesse James

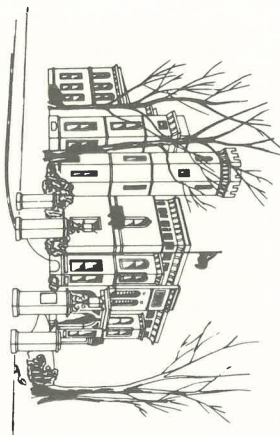
The Book and Gift Shops at both St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums now have a new book available for sale. **I, Jesse James**, written by James R. Ross was published in May of this year. James R. Ross, a Superior Court Judge in Orange County California, is the great-grandson of Jesse Woodson James, the notorious outlaw. Judge Ross lived with his grandfather, Jesse

James, Jr. until the age of twenty-five. He served in the Coast Guard during World War II, and on his return to civilian life, followed the example of his grandfather and studied law. He graduated from law school in 1953. In 1983, after almost thirty years in successful private practice, he was appointed to the bench. The St. Joseph Museum is one of eight organizations recognized for their contribution on the author's page of acknowledgements. As Judge Ross states in his book, "The Story of Jesse James will surely endure whether this book had been published or not, and it is certainly not my intention to further romanticize the tale of Jesse and Frank, nor for that matter to act as an apologist for them. I wish only that they and their exploits be viewed once more, this time against the background of the times in which they lived, and with the additional benefit of information contained in this volume. In this way, a new perspective may be obtained which will better qualify the reader to judge for himself whether the infamous 'James Boys' of Clay County Missouri, were saints or sinners." ■

New and Reinstated Members

The St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums welcome the following new and reinstated members and thank them for their support:

Mary Harding
Dr. and Mrs. Harmon Mothershead
Charlene Waller
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Kruse
James D. Easter



Saint Joseph Museum

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