

# The Happenings of the St. Joseph Museums

Spring 2016

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## Confluence Opens at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion

Approaching its 25th anniversary, the Great Flood of 1993 was one of the costliest natural disasters. According to Kenny Keiser, author of *Missouri's Great Flood of 1993*, the damage caused by the flood totaled over 20 billion dollars with at least 10,000 homes destroyed and 50 lives lost. Mr. Keiser has served as a subject-matter expert for the exhibit, along with Mike Bracciano, meteorologist, TJ Peacher and Kasey Whitehead, conservationists, and Michael Gossenauer, river engineer.



What originally began as a commemorative exhibit, has morphed into a larger exploration of the importance of flooding to our area, as well as human attempts to control flooding, and how these interventions have affected our natural environment. According to Missouri Conservationists and the Army Corps of Engineers, 100% of Missouri River wildlife has been affected by humans narrowing the river and deepening its channel.

The interactive exhibit will debut an Augmented Reality Sandbox which will allow visitors of all ages to alter landscapes and create virtual rivers and floods. Some of the taxidermied animals that have been on display at the Mansion since the 1940s will be covered during the span of this new exhibit, but some old favorites - such as the marshland diorama and river fish - will be updated to fit the new interpretation.

A large team is working on this project which has brought together technology experts, photographers, videographers, graphics and curriculum designers, historians, and of course our own museum professionals. "Confluence: The Great Flood of 1993" will open on the third floor of the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion on April 15 from 5:30-7:30. The exhibit is funded in part by the Morton Fund for the Arts.

## Four Lovely Locations Featured in Museum Progressive Dinner

The St. Joseph Museum board and staff would like to invite you out to dinner! This is an opportunity to participate in a unique evening of dining at some of the beautifully restored homes and buildings in the Museum Hill Neighborhood. The evening begins with hors d'oeuvres at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21. The salad course will be served at The Dome. Your choice for the main course at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion is filet of beef with hunter sauce or salmon with pistachio basil butter. The evening will end on a sweet note with dessert at Twin Spires.

Space is limited to 60! Reservations are \$50 per person and can be made by calling 816-232-8471. You'll receive notification prior to the event with the address of your host for hors d'oeuvres, so you won't be late for dinner. We look forward to breaking bread with you!



Newly restored, The Dome, formerly the First Church of Christ, Scientist, will be the location for the salad course.

## Merging Cultures Exhibit Opens with Program by a Missouri State Archivist

In February, the Black Archives Museum of the St. Joseph Museums hosted Greg Olson, Missouri State Archives curator of special exhibits and special projects. He gave a presentation on early St. Joseph, Missouri, history and the topic of his new book *Jeffrey Deroine: Ioway Translator and Frontier Diplomat*. Olson's previous books include *Great Walker: Ioway Leader*, *The Ioway in Missouri*, and *The Life of Folklorist Mary Alicia Owen*. The event drew 45 guests and marked the opening of Merging Cultures, an exhibit on the history of African Americans in Buchanan County and the folklore of Mary Alicia Owen. The Museum has received a one-year loan of Sac and Fox items collected by Owen in the late 1800s for the exhibit from the Missouri State Museum in Jefferson City, Missouri.



*Loes Hedge and Dr. Deborah Bryan had their books signed by Author and Missouri State Archivist Greg Olson during the event.*



*Interns Ashley Coats and Kasey Solomon review items for possible use in the upcoming Ruth Warrick exhibit.*

## St. Joseph Museums Offer Internships

The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., offers a great opportunity for students to learn the skills required for museum work. Through our internship program, students work directly with staff to learn the basics of historic preservation and museum practices. Projects in collections and exhibits give interns an all-encompassing experience providing a broader skill set for resume building. Through research and hands on experience with the collection, interns build exhibits from the ground up, learn grant writing, graphic design, and other key skills. This year, interns Ashley Coats, a MWSU student, and Kasey Solomon, a student at NWMSU, are working on the Ruth Warrick exhibit, which opens in June and corresponds with Ruth's 100th birthday. If you are interested in an internship, please contact the St. Joseph Museum at [sjm@stjosephmuseum.org](mailto:sjm@stjosephmuseum.org).

## Donations to the Collections

**Jim Grimm** – 6 inch ruler from MIPAPCO Boxes in Emporia, Kansas. The ruler was made at Missouri Paper Products Company in St. Joseph

**Heidi Hornaday** - Documents, photographs, scrapbooks, and items belonging to Warren S. Hinton, donor's father. Items relate to the history of the Methodist Medical Center and events in St. Joseph from 1953-1978.

**Karen and Mark Kerford** – Assorted certificates, photographs, and documents related to the Catherine, Edmonia, Doris, Angie, and Matthew Kerford of St. Joseph. Also included is a wooden pointer and class bell.

**Carolyn Ross** – Admission to the bar certificates awarded to Ernest Ross by the Missouri Supreme Court in 1912 and a certificate for the District Court of Appeal of the State of California dated 1913.

**Judy Smith** – Programs, poster, and St. Joseph newspapers of local events.

**Mary Sapp** – Framed gold wreath surrounding photograph of Marth Conrad, at her graduation from the Academy of the Sacred Heart.

**Loah Stallard** – Infant clothing from the 1930s.

**Melvin Sweet** – Catalog from Wyeth Hardware Manufacturing Company, 1908.

**Marshal White** – A wooden level, rulers, shoehorn, matchbook, token, photographs, programs, cookbooks, newspaper clippings; all related to St. Joseph businesses or events.

**Reid and Virginia Woodbury** – Scrapbook of newspaper clippings related to Charles Geiger, member of the School Board, c. 1931 and programs from St. Joseph school events.

St. Joseph Museums  
P.O. Box 8096  
St. Joseph, MO 64508

**Visit all of our Museums**

**Black Archives Museum**  
**Glore Psychiatric Museum**  
**St. Joseph Museum**  
**3406 Frederick Avenue**  
**St. Joseph, Missouri 64506**  
Mon-Sat 10-5 p.m.  
Sun 1-5 p.m.

**Wyeth-Tootle Mansion**  
**1100 Charles Street**  
**St. Joseph, Missouri**  
**64501**  
Available for rentals &  
group tours

Tel: 816.232.8471  
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**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**March 24 - "If It Looks Like a Man-Gender Identity, Female Soldiers, and 'Lady Bushwhackers'" in the Civil War St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Avenue, 6 p.m.** - This presentation by Missouri Humanities Council speaker Diane Eickhoff explores how and why a fascinating group of women defied cultural norms to participate in America's largest domestic military conflict. **Admission is free.**

**April 1 - Wyeth-Tootle Mansion opens.** The Mansion will be open on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. through October.

**April 10, 2016 The American Girl® Doll Club** – The club meets at the St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Avenue, from 2 to 4 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month. The featured doll for April will be Lanie Holland, the Doll of the Year in 2010. The cost of each session is \$8 per child or \$6 for museum members, which includes the program, craft session, and snack. Reservations are required. To register for the American Girl® Doll Club please contact Sarah Elder at 816-232-8471, ext. 19 or by e-mail at sarah@stjosephmuseum.org.

**April 13 - Annual Volunteer Luncheon – Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 1100 Charles Street, 12:00 p.m.** - The St. Joseph Museums will recognize Museum volunteers with a luncheon in their honor. **By Invitation at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion.**

**April 15 - "Confluence: The Great Flood of 1993" Exhibit Opening/Reception – Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 1100 Charles Street 5:30 p.m.** - The physical, economic, and social impacts of the Flood of 1993 are examined in this new exhibit. Funding for this exhibit was provided by the David H. Morton Memorial Fund for the Arts. See page 1 for more details.

**April 21 - Enjoy a progressive dinner with appetizers, salad, entree, and dessert in four beautiful locations beginning at 5:30 p.m.** The cost is \$50 per person and space is limited to 60. Pre-paid reservations are required. See cover page for more details.

**May 1, 2016 - The American Girl® Doll Club Meets at the Mansion** - The club will meet at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 1100 Charles Street, from 2 to 4 p.m. - The featured doll in May will be Samantha Parkington. The cost of each session is \$8 per child or \$6 for museum members, which includes the program, craft session, and snack. Reservations are required. To register for the American Girl® Doll Club please contact Sarah Elder at 816-232-8471, ext. 19 or by e-mail at sarah@stjosephmuseum.org.

**May 26 - 6th Annual Mah Jongg Party at the Mansion – Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 1100 Charles Street, 12:00 to 3:30 p.m.** - The afternoon will include a buffet lunch, party favors, door prizes, and plenty of time to play Mah Jongg. Pre-paid reservations are required. Reservations can be made by calling the St. Joseph Museum at 816-232-8471. Bring your Mah Jongg set and join the fun! Admission: \$25 per person, \$100 per table

**June 9 - The Story of Adeline, a Savannah, Missouri, Slave – Black Archives Museum, 3406 Frederick Avenue - 6 p.m.** - *The Story of Adeline* will be performed by master storyteller Gladys Caines-Coggsell of the Missouri Humanities Council Speakers Bureau. Adeline was present to hear Abraham Lincoln debate political opponent Stephen Douglas; with the North's victory in the Civil War she became free, but chose to stay on with the family to which she had been sold. Admission: Free