

St. Joseph Museums, Inc. April-May-June 2008

Black Archives Museum Hall of Fame

Each February, two new inductees are added to the Black Archives Museum Hall of Fame, which was created to showcase the achievements of St. Joseph's Black community. This year's recipients, Rep. Martin and LaVell Rucker were honored for their many contributions to the community during a reception at the Black Archives Museum on February 21.



2008 Black Archives Museum Hall of Fame Honorees Rep. Martin and LaVell Rucker.



Above, l to r: LaVell and Martin Rucker with past honorees Joyce Starr, Alonzo Weston, Earnestine Blakley, Ramadhan Washington, and Loes Hedge.

Jewell Robinson, founder of the original Knea-Von Archives, and his wife Geraldine, were the first inductees. Previous inductees also include Helen and Ramadhan Washington, Rev. Earnestine Blakley, Jerry Cooper, Alonzo Weston, Joyce Starr, and Dr. William and Loes Hedge.

Super Science Saturday



Above: Volunteer educators gather for a group photograph as Super Science Saturday '08 comes to a close.

The eighth annual Super Science Saturday drew 617 students and adults to the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion on February 2. This year, the first floor featured Bess Beetle races, Hissing Cockroach races, as well as electrostatics, physics, chemistry, and biology experiments.

The second floor of the mansion featured a room-size math maze, animal track making, and hand washing experiments, while the third floor came alive with reptiles, spiders, and mammals that fascinated visitors of all ages.



Left: Ethan and Ryan Mills encounter a Bearded Lizard during Super Science Saturday '08.

Merry Burtner elected President of the St. Joseph Museums, Inc.



Merry Burtner is a native of New York, reared in Port Washington, a peninsula community about 17 miles east of Manhattan. Like St. Joseph, it is an area rich in history. College brought her to Missouri. She has an Associates of Arts degree from Stephens College and graduated from the University of Missouri School of Physical Therapy. A student clinical affiliation at

the Methodist Hospital in St. Joseph eventually led Merry and her husband Tim to stay in St. Joseph. "I felt very welcomed by the citizens I came in contact with. St. Joseph was "a safe place for our children to grow up and a community with a positive attitude towards the development of its arts and its cultural history." They will be celebrating their 36th anniversary this year and also their 36th year in St. Joseph.

After the birth of their second child, Merry left the hospital workforce. However, she remained active in the community and is a true example of volunteerism - from Trails West to the Red Cross to her church.

Museums have long held an interest for the Burtner family, not only while touring around the country, but also in St. Joseph. She began her affiliation with our Museum as a member of the Exploratory Committee and then was asked to fill a vacancy due to a board resignation. In 2007, she was elected to the board by the members and elected by the trustees to serve as vice-president. She says, "very shortly the Trustees will begin developing a new strategic plan, and I anticipate a plan that will place the SJM as a dynamic force within our community. I welcome your dreams, ideas, critiques and observations to help guide the board in our retreat. Be advised, I am not afraid to ask anyone to help in implementing an idea, solve a problem, or provide a service that will better serve our organization. I look forward to meeting each of you at a meeting or Museum event."

A very special thank you to Suzanne Bradley who completed a two-year term as President of the Trustees. She stepped forward to help the Museum at a very important time in its history. She will continue to serve on the Board of Trustees.

St. Joseph Museums Staff and Trustees

Jackie Lewin.....Executive Director
Susan Noland.....Administrative Assist. Director
Sarah Elder.....Curator of Collections
Kathy Reno.....Marketing/Public Relations
Andy Meyer.....Security/Maintenance
Amy Grier.....Director of Education
Patty Horine.....Gift Shop/Receptionist
Mildred Roberts.....Gift Shop/Receptionist
Rachel Richey.....Receptionist/Secretary
Jim Hodges.....Gift Shop/Receptionist

Merry Burtner President
Joan Hickman.....Vice-President
Lee Sawyer.....Secretary
Craig Sumner, C.P.A. Treasurer

R. Phillip Acuff, M.D.
Jimmy Albright, Ph.D.
Suzanne Bocell Bradley
Robert A. Brown, Jr.
Richard N. DeShon
Tom Duggins
Clark Hampton
Carol Matt
Lisa Rock
Kenneth Siemens
William Maxwell Wyeth

Mike Fisher.....Archaeological Research
Jim Feagins.....Archaeological Research
Nancy Hampton.....Archives & Collections
Esther Kreek.....Historical Music Consultant
Suzanne Lehr.....Research Associate
Alonzo Weston.....Research Associate

THE HAPPENINGS is published by
St. Joseph Museums, Inc.,
a not-for-profit corporation,
P.O. Box 8096
St. Joseph, MO 64508
(816) 232-8471
www.stjosephmuseum.org
e-mail: sjm@stjosephmuseum.org

© 2008 St. Joseph Museums, Inc.

Treasures from the Collections

The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., presented "Treasures from the Collections," a series of programs on Tuesday evenings in March featuring artifacts from the Museums collections. Curator of Collections, Sarah Elder and Head of Security and Maintenance Andy Meyer presented a different selection of unusual artifacts from places near and far and shared the history behind them with the audience.



African Heritage Workshop for Children

The Black Archives Museum of the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., hosted an African Heritage workshop on Saturday, February 16 for children 5 to 10 years of age in honor of Black History Month. Forty students came to explore the natural and cultural history of Africa through storytelling, arts and crafts, and tasting indigenous foods.



Mini Memories Workshop

This winter the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., presented a Mini-Memories Workshop for adults. Participants recorded their memories of daily life during their childhood and teen years in a keepsake notebook. The workshop included such topics as "Grandmother's Kitchen" and "School Memories." At the end of the four-week session, participants had created a special notebook of memories to keep or share with their families.



Japanese Tea Party

The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., hosted a Japanese Tea Party for children 5 years of age and up on Thursday, February 28. Twenty-five children explored Japanese culture with hands-on activities and tasty treats as they enjoyed the company of Miss Hyogo, a Japanese Friendship Doll that was donated to the St. Joseph Museum in 1929. The event was an opportunity for area children to hear the story of the Japanese Friendship Dolls that were exchanged between the children of Japan and the children of the United States in the 1920s.



Evolution of Eckel's Architectural Firms:

1873 Eckel and Meier
 1875 Stigers, Boettner & Co.
 1878 Boettner & Eckel
 1880 Eckel & Mann
 1892 Eckel & Van Brunt
 1908 Eckel & Boschen
 1910 Eckel & Aldrich
 1959 Brunner & Brunner
 1997 George T. Hopkins, Architect
 2003 River Bluffs Architects

The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., is deeply honored to be the custodians of this enormously significant collection. Not only is it important to our city's architectural history, but also it is a record for the overall architectural achievement of the United States.

The Museum will be putting together a corps of volunteers to catalog and organize the collection for public access. Although, there have already been a number of requests for information from home owners, the collection will not be ready for researchers for several months. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Director Jackie Lewin.

Donors to the 2007 Annual Fund

Anonymous
 Dr. & Mrs. Philip Acuff
 Donna Jean Boyer
 Robert A. Brown, Jr.
 Marilyn Bryan
 Tim & Merry Burtner
 J. Bruce Clark
 Bill & Joy Cole
 Commerce Bank
 Margaret Elder
 Richard & Mignon DeShon
 Walter & Marilyn Drannan
 Edward & Matilda Fitzpatrick
 James Fly & Constance Saxton
 John & Karen Foley

Duane & Barbara Foster
 Larry Goldberg & Patricia Boice
 Mr. & Mrs. Clark Hampton
 Cosette Hardwick
 John & Joan Hickman
 David & Barbara Hurst
 Eileen Houston
 George & Charlene Jorgensen
 Robert & Janie Kemp
 Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Kranitz
 Esther Kreek
 Mr. & Mrs. James A. Lehr
 Jerry & Jackie Lewin
 Mrs. Eleanor McDonald
 Mariella Manville

James & Pat Marston
 Russell & Carol Matt
 Mr. & Mrs. Casey Meyers
 Nelson Pettis Farmstead
 Gertrude Norris Charitable Trust
 Steven & Jeannie Pitluck
 Joyce Rochambeau
 Lisa Rock
 Western Robidoux, Inc.
 James & René Roth
 Gene & Madeleine Sanders
 Lee & Toni Sawyer
 Mr. and Mrs. V. Craig Sumner
 Ada and Alene Tourbier

New and Renewed Members

December 21, 2007 to March 17, 2008

Renewals

Allen County Public Library
 George & Carol Almanza
 Nancy Bechtold
 Iva Katherine Bocell
 James Bocell
 Merry Burtner
 CBIZ-BCKW Insurance
 Cindy & Brian Burri
 Thomas Cobb
 Dr. & Mrs. Dan Colgan
 Judge Frank & Rita Connett
 Mignon DeShon
 Tom Duggins - Frame Station
 Cliff & Jean Duggar
 Sandra Hamilton
 Mr. and Mrs. Randy Herzog

Jim Hodges
 Patsy Horine
 Mr. & Mrs. David Hornaday
 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Houts, Jr.
 Joseph Kneib
 Sharon Kosek
 Margaret Kulowski
 Carol Jean Laurent
 Larry Lucas, Jr.
 Robert McCammon - Midwest
 Mobile Radio Service, Inc.
 Mrs. Eleanor McDonald
 Susan Meyer
 Jane Nelson
 Marvin Nelson
 Kathy Reno
 James & Shirley Shreckengast

Nancy Siemens
 Glen & Dorothy Smith
 Waltraud Smith
 Barbara Steiniche
 Paul Stevenson
 June Swift
 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Thompson
 Susan Wagner
 Mr. & Mrs. John Waldron
 Karl Wellenkoetter
 Virginia Woodbury

New Members

Kaylene Gibson
 Jennifer Morris
 Karolyn Voigt

Calendar of Events

March 8 to April 13 - "Stories in the Stitches" Quilt Exhibition - Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 11th & Charles - The Piece Corps Quilters Guild exhibition continues with over forty quilt projects by area women representing traditional patterns as well as the newest design trends. The exhibition includes the history of the pattern or the story behind each design. The exhibition will be available for viewing on Friday & Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. & on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for students, and free for Museum Members. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information.

April 24 - *Ruling over Monarchs, Giants, and Stars*, Black Archives Museum of the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., 3406 Frederick Avenue, 7 p.m. - Bob Motley, the last surviving umpire from the Negro Leagues and the author of *Ruling over Monarchs, Giants, and Stars, Umpiring in the Negro Leagues and Beyond*, will share memories from his amazing life and career. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information.

May 13 - Mental Health Fair, sponsored by the Glore Psychiatric Museum, in cooperation with the St. Joseph Public Library, 502 North Woodbine, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. - Handouts about area mental health service providers along with information on national and Northwest Missouri's mental health programs will be made available, in conjunction with the screening of the classic Hollywood film, *Splendor in the Grass*. An introduction to the film will be presented by Bob Shultz, who is the Creative Services Director for KQ2 & the host and producer of "Front Row." Admission is free and popcorn will be available. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information.

May 29 - "A History of the Treatment of People with Mental Illness in Missouri," Glore Psychiatric Museum, 3406 Frederick Avenue, 7 p.m. - The featured speaker will be Dr. Danny Wedding of the State Historical Society of Missouri Speakers Bureau. His presentation will focus on the history of the mental health care centers in the state, such as the State Hospital #1 in Fulton, the St. Louis County Insane Asylum, and the St. Louis Hospital for Social Evils. The history of such hospitals, the treatments offered to patients, the management of people with mental illness, and the impact of social and medical movements on treatment, will also be included in the program. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information.

June 6 to September 5 - Midwestern Mental Health Art Invitational - 2008, Glore Psychiatric Museum, 3406 Frederick Avenue - Features over fifty pieces of for-sale art on canvas or paper by mental health patient/client artists from Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, and Nebraska. Admission is \$3.50 Adults, \$1.50 Students, and free for Museum Members. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information.

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.

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. JOSEPH, MO
PERMIT NO. 40

Wyeth-Tootle Mansion
1100 Charles St.
P.O. Box 8096
St. Joseph, Missouri 64508
Call 816.232.8471 for Spring Schedule

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED