



# HAPPENINGS

## St. Joseph Museum

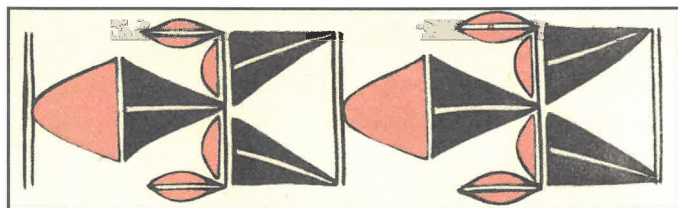
January / February 1998

This issue features prints from the two-volume portfolio *Pueblo Pottery* which was edited by C. Szwedzicki in 1936. The portfolio was donated to the St. Joseph Museum in 1951 by Webb Wheeler.

The bowl (plate 99) was made during the 1890s by Nampeyo, a young Hopi woman. Hopi pottery was known and highly valued in pre-Columbian North America. However, with the coming of the Spaniards in the early 17th century, Hopi pottery making went into a decline. An American archaeologist, excavating in Hopi country in the 1890s, began uncovering pots from the previous centuries, and Nampeyo was fascinated by the ancient designs. She began making pottery using the old designs, and Hopi pottery once again gained a widespread reputation for excellence.

Plate 99 - Water jar of pre-Columbian form and decoration by Nampeyo.

Plate 25 - Designs from antique and modern Hopi ware.



# St. Joseph Museum Happenings

## MISSOURI ARTIFACTS DONATED



*A small portion of the artifacts from the Heflin collection.*

*Jim Feagins*

**Native** American artifacts from the St. Joseph area and other Missouri sites were recently donated to the St. Joseph Museum by Aida and Robert Heflin. The 118 artifacts that make up this donation are from the collection of the late Allen A. Heflin. Dr. Heflin was a former trustee and vice-president of the Missouri Archaeological Society and a past recipient of the J. Mett Shippee Award from the Kansas City Archaeological Society. He was born and raised in Gower, Missouri. After graduating from St. Joseph Junior College, Dr. Heflin attended Texas A & M where he earned a degree in veterinary medicine. Working for the Bureau of Animal Industry, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Dr. Heflin spent most of his career in Mexico and Italy.

The cultural material in this collection represents a time span from 9,000 years ago to the mid 1750s. The collection includes projectile points of various types, shell beads, stone and shell pendants, grooved axes, celts, stone and clay pipes, scrapers, animal

## Five-Year Improvement Plan Has Begun

**The** St. Joseph Museum is responsible for some marvelous collections that any museum in the country would be proud to have. One of our objectives is to focus on improving the museum and the significant collections entrusted to it.



Part of this task is to make capital improvements to this building and grounds in order to enhance the visitor's experience. Last fall we implemented a five-year plan. The

## Walk St. Jo 1998

**Missouri Riverbluff Ramblers**, the St. Joseph Family YMCA, and the St. Joseph Museum are again sponsoring a year-round, 10K walk through our historic city. Volkssport events are open to everyone. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Although the official kickoff for "Walk St. Jo 1998" is March 7, 1998, volkswalkers can obtain credit now if they walk the course. Those who do not want to walk for credit will enjoy a leisurely stroll past some of St. Joseph's historic sites. This year's course has been altered in order to include the Harris-Kemper

## Recent Donations to the Collections

**Christopher Kneib** - A full mounted grizzly bear. This grizzly bear was formerly a loan item but was recently made a permanent donation to our collection of natural history items.

## Surveys Appreciated

Thanks! Thanks! Thanks! We appreciate all the surveys we received from our members. Over 10% of our members returned the survey mailed in November. Installing an elevator, renovating third floor, and expanding educational programs were ranked as the top three priorities for the museum. The overwhelming majority of members said that the *Happenings* was very informative. *Happenings* articles were voted the best part of the newsletter. Favorite and least favorite exhibits varied greatly. Many exhibits were listed as favorite by some and least favorite by others, showing the great diversity of interest among our members. Thanks again for returning those surveys, your opinions can now help guide us as we plan for the next century!

## Calendar of Events

**February 23** - The St. Joseph Archaeological Society will

years are in various stages of planning and development.

Our first step last fall was to replace an "ailing" handicap lift. The old lift had been an important addition to the museum several years ago, but had become unreliable. Our second step was to consult State Foresters Mark Nelson and John Flemming, with the Missouri Department of Conservation, and Bob Stubblefield of Moffet Nursery regarding the landscaping of the museum grounds. We have lost a number of trees, particularly flowering trees, over the years and have done relatively little replanting.

Their recommendations included removing several of the old, damaged, and diseased trees, cleaning up and pruning the remaining trees, and implementing a replanting schedule over the next several years. The tree removal portion is completed and the pruning is scheduled for a later date. A few new trees have already been planted.

This year, we want to air condition the visitor spaces. That presents a unique and major challenge since we do not want visible duct work detracting from the architectural significance of the house.

Other projects include the feasibility of installing a small elevator in the tower, which would allow access to the second and third floors for those unable to negotiate the stairs. If this can be done, and the price is not too exorbitant, we will proceed. Again, we do not want to compromise the architectural integrity of the house.

The museum does not have a parking lot so we have always relied on street parking. We would like to see a lot in the southeast corner of the block. It must be sympathetic to the area and the building and not "just a slab."

Many of you have seen the magnificence of the building when it is lit during the holiday season. We want to install underground lighting around the building. The soft lights shining on the light gray sandstone exterior should make it attractive year-round. There is always something challenging and exciting going on at the museum.

charming. St. Joseph homes built during the late 1890s and early 1900s.



*Participation in "Walk St. Jo" is free unless the award or volkswalk credit is desired. The 1998 award is an embroidered patch showing a pair of beaded moccasins from the collections of the St. Joseph Museum.*

## Museum Certified by NPS

The St. Joseph Museum has been certified by the National Park Service (NPS) as an official interpretative site on the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. As such, the museum will display two NPS logo signs on the grounds and smaller signs adjacent to the museum's Lewis and Clark exhibits on second floor. The Lewis and Clark Trail was designated by Congress as a National Historic Trail in 1978, and the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition will be a nation-wide celebration from 2003 to 2006.



**March 30** - The St. Joseph Archaeological Society will meet at 7:30 p.m.

**April 21** - Opening Day of Children's Week. Activities will begin at 3 p.m. and continue until 8 p.m. This year's theme will be the Hunt for Robidoux's Treasure. Children can follow a treasure map, enjoy refreshments, and much more.

**April 22-26** - Children's Week continues. Children and parents can enjoy free admission and participate in a fun treasure hunt.

**May 25** - Memorial Day. The museum is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For details call  
232-8471.



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## Membership Update

January/February 1998

### Members

#### New and Renewed

American Family Insurance  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bolin  
Mrs. Shirley Bradley  
William and Jean Brown  
Commerce Bank-Emil Sechter  
Dream Weaver Screen Printing  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard DeShon  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Drummond  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Fay  
Fred and Shirley Federes  
Frank B. Flynn  
Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Ford, II  
Virginia Galbraith  
Arbie and Bonnie German  
Mr. and Mrs. S. Wade Hampton  
Hillyard Incorporated  
Hillyard Industries  
Gordon and Beverly Hopkins  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Houts, Jr.  
Hyde Forge Questers  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Lawhon  
Mr. and Mrs. Ross Marshall  
Crystal McKnight  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter McWilliams  
Miljavac Electrical Corporation  
Dr. and Mrs. Carlos Moya  
Art and Cora Oehmcke  
Steve Pitluck  
Provident Bank  
Jane and William Rhule  
Charles Richmond  
Connie Saxton and Jim Fly  
Mr. and Mrs. Melville Schmidt  
Hiroshi and Michiko Takaoka  
Patricia Tobin  
Dr. and Mrs. James Trout  
Lee Wahlert

#### Donations

Betty and Edward Blakely  
St. Joseph Electric

#### Memorials

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Hampton in  
memory of Richard Dickens

Mr. and Mrs. James Lehr in  
memory of Robert Chesney

Mr. and Mrs. James Lehr in  
memory of Leah Spratt

*Memberships and donations  
received after January 1 will be  
recognized in the next issue.*

**Thank you  
for supporting the  
St. Joseph Museum.**

**Memorial and tribute gift cards are available at the museum.**



