

The *Happenings*

St. Joseph Museum

Pony Express National Memorial

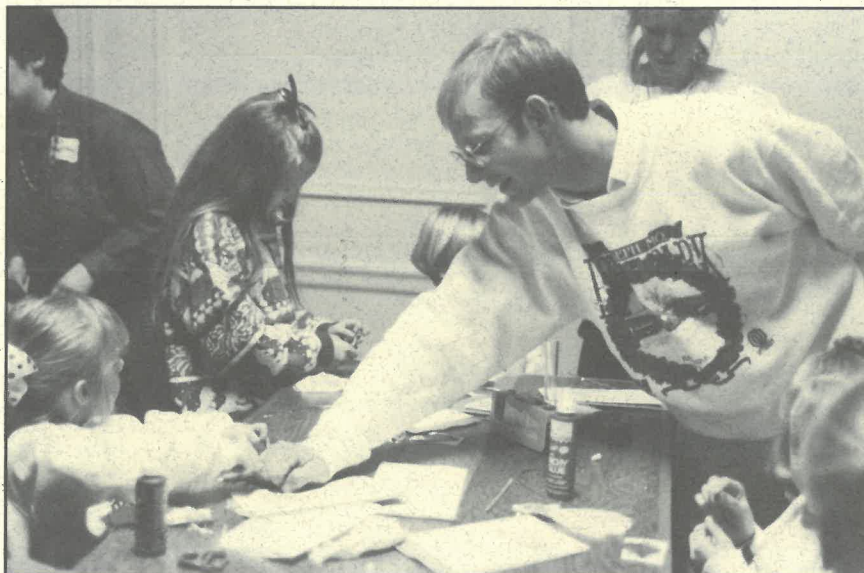
VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

The Victorian Christmas Ornament Workshop held at the St. Joseph Museum on December 2, 1993, was very successful in addition to being a great deal of fun for the participants. Our appreciation goes to Jamie Buczek, owner of Jamie's Secret Garden, who volunteered to conduct the workshop. She developed the ideas for the ornaments, trained the other volunteers and kept the workshop on schedule so that all participants were able to finish four ornaments. Jamie, who was dressed in 19th century clothing, talked about Victorian practices and customs during the course of the workshop so participants took home knowledge as well as several ornaments. The speciality at Jamie's Secret Garden is floral wreaths. Interested persons may contact Jamie at her shop in Faucett, 107 3rd Street, 238-4938.



Clint Sims

Jean Sweet helps with an intricate procedure.



Clint Sims

David Winslow brought his daughter and stayed to help.



Clint Sims

Jamie Buczek, left, gives instructions while Jackie Lewin waits to see where her assistance is needed.



Clint Sims

Melissa Ellis, Michelle Ellis and Lorena Cardenada enjoy making Victorian Christmas ornaments.

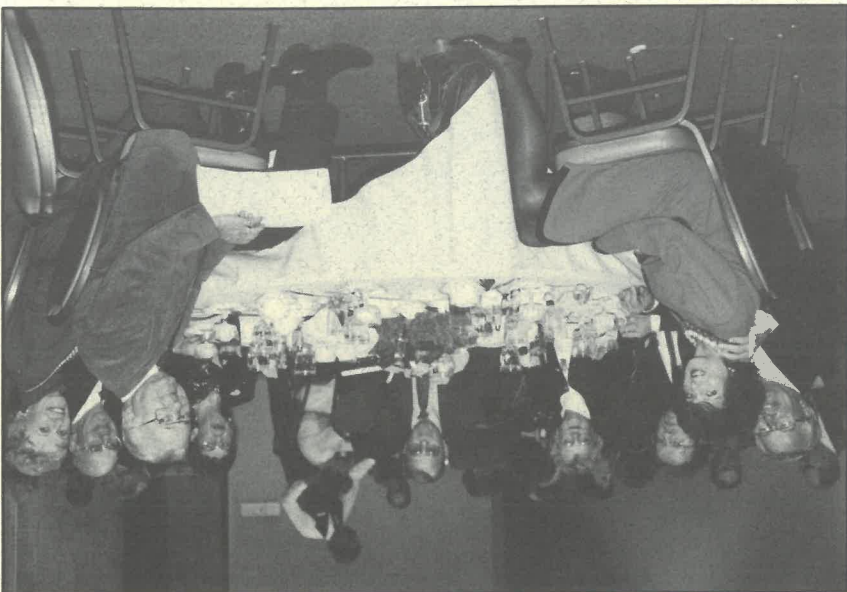
FROM THE DIRECTOR

December 1, 1993, is a date that I will remember for the rest of my life with exceeding fondness and warmth. I was absolutely, totally and completely surprised and overwhelmed by a dinner given for me by the Board of Trustees of both the St. Joseph Museum and the Pony Express National Memorial. The occasion was to recognize my twenty-five years as director of the two institutions.

My wife Donna and Nancy Hampton collaborated to keep me in the dark about the surprise. Donna told me that there was a Social Welfare Board function on December 1 which she would like me to attend with her. Donna is a Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Social Welfare Board. Since each of us supports the others in career, I was quite willing to attend her function. In retrospect, I did ask her several times about the dinner, but she always eluded the questions or diluted the answers.

So, on December 1 we went to the Holiday Inn where the Social Welfare Board dinner was to be. As we walked down the hall and around the corner to the banquet room, I met Jim Lehr and Clark Hampton, both museum trustees. I asked them what they were doing and their response was "scouting." Since both are actively involved in Boy Scouts, that was a very legitimate response. Donna and I continued down the hall and paused outside the door while I hung up our coats. Donna entered the room without me, and when I opened the door to follow her, I was immediately overwhelmed with the unified shout of:

SURPRISE!!!
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY!!!!



David Mead

Seated at the table left to right: Mignon and Dick DeShon; Jim Lehr; Nancy and Bob Siemens; Donna and Rich Nolf; Nancy and Clark Hampton.

ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM & PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL MEMORIAL STAFF

PROGRAM

Rich Nolf Director
Jackie Lewin Curator, PENM
Marilyn Taylor Curator of Ethnology
Robbie Sipes Curator of Exhibits
Bonnie Watkins Curator of Collections
David Mead Curator of Natural History
Kathy Reno Gift Shop/Membership
Reva Fish-Rocha Customer Service Coordinator
Sarah Elder Curator of History

SUPPORT

Gail Rose Executive Secretary
Susan Noland Bookkeeper
Scott Koch Exhibits Technician
Clint Sims Graphic Artist
June Swift Secretary
Carol Wills Secretary
Mary Knab Research Assistant
Chris Fisher Maintenance Technician
Kem Mills Receptionist
Camille Grable Receptionist
David Rich Receptionist
Helen Matthews Receptionist
Ida Caw Receptionist
Richard Hill Receptionist
Lori Calloway Receptionist
Michelle Emery Receptionist

ADJUNCT

Mike Fisher Archaeological Research Associate
Jim Feagins Archaeological Research Associate
Esther Kreek Historical Music Coordinator
Russ Mooney Saddle & Tack Consultant

The Happenings is published by the
St. Joseph Museum, Inc.,
and Pony Express, Inc.,
not-for-profit corporations,
1100 Charles Street
St. Joseph, Missouri, 64501-2874
(816) 232-8471.
©1993 St. Joseph Museum, Inc.

Camera flashes were going off, and it seemed like every light in the room was focused on me so that I could hardly see. It was like a dream in which I was in a different world. For all intents and purposes, it might as well have been a dream, and I might as well have been in another world, because I was in shock the entire evening. I was completely surprised.

I recall my first mental reaction to the "25th Anniversary" line - This doesn't make sense! Donna and I have been married for 32 years, and I have been working at the museum for 29 years. I was so "dumbfounded" that it didn't dawn on me until 20 or so minutes later that this was in recognition of my 25 years as director.

I was hosted and toasted by a wonderful turnout of Trustees and their spouses, and there were numerous times throughout the evening that I was deeply touched. Yet, the underlying thought was, I can't believe this is happening to me. We had a great dinner, but I can't tell you what I had to eat. (It had to be good, because Yvette Paton was in charge of the food).



David Mead

Left to right : Don Paton, Clark Hampton, Rich Nolf, Bill Brunner, Jim Lehr.

After dinner, Bob Siemens acted as master of ceremonies and waxed over the last 25 years as only Bob Siemens can wax. He got his source material from Nancy Hampton, Marilyn Taylor, Jackie Lewin, Bonnie Watkins and June Swift, all of whom have been with me most of those twenty-five years. Bob himself has been treasurer for twenty-three of those years. I laughed, I wept, I listened, I remembered. He brought back so many memories, but most of all he reinforced why I like working where I do. It is the people around me and how we care for and support one another. It was an incredible and all consuming experience.



David Mead

A perfect gift for a perfect evening.

When Bob finished he asked Robbie Sipes if he was ready. Robbie jumped up and said, "I sure am," and disappeared out the service entrance. No sooner had he stepped out than he came back in rolling a four-wheel cart with a large, draped object. Under the drape was a gift that the Trustees purchased for me - an exquisite carving by Bobby Sipes, Robbie's father. The carving is of a robin attacking a blue jay that has just robbed the nest of an egg. Both birds are in full flight. It is a magnificent piece of work.

To wind the evening up, Bob turned the podium over to me. I was literally speechless, a condition that most of you will find hard to believe! In fact, I was essentially speechless all night. I had been "got," and I kind of pride myself on being aware of what's going on around me. I spoke for only 20 or 30 seconds. I don't remember what I said, but I do remember that in some way I tried to express my sincere joy and appreciation.

As I have reflected back on that evening and listened to the stories of intrigue, mystery and secretive communications, I have come to the conclusion that Nancy Hampton and my wife are both very sneaky!! I've heard stories of Trustees who, when talking to me on the phone, were being reminded by their wives, through gestures, that this was a SURPRISE. I guess at one point I nearly gave Nancy heart failure as I casually mentioned that I was considering being gone for a couple of days around the first of December to attend a tourism function. However, I decided that I didn't have the time to go. Nobody, I repeat, nobody tipped their hand, and I was totally caught off guard. I am only aware of twice in my adulthood that I was truly

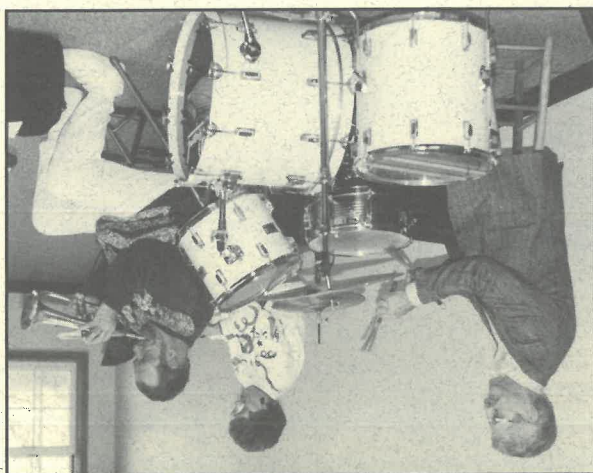
THE PONY EXPRESS CHRISTMAS

In late November, trustees, staff and volunteers met at the Pony Express National Memorial to decorate the exterior of the museum. After everyone enjoyed a dinner of pumpkin soup and sandwiches topped off by homemade cookies, the work began. The decorating party was to get the National Memorial dressed up for the holiday season.

Saturday, December 11, a Pony Express Christmas was celebrated at the site. We would like to thank the following groups, organizations, trustees and other volunteers for their time and effort to make this event a success:

Karen Heyde and the Truman Middle School vocalists; "One Voice" from the Caring First Assembly of God Church; Jazz trio of Jim Graves, Paul Montemurro and Jan Young; Joy Collins; Kit Carson; Bob Carmichael; Sherry Jones; Nancy Hampton; Jean Sweet; Pat Marston; Jamie Fuerbacher; Pat Benedict; Jan Pray; Dick and Mignon DeShon; Katie Wills; Marlys Hauglie; Marjorie Findley; Madge Randall; Joe Houts; Bobby Sipes; Karen Graves; Tim Butner; Jim Lehr; Jerry Lewin; Bobbie Wills; Kara Ramsey; Larry and Kay Wichmann; David Oliver; Sheila Mayer; David and Sonja Shinneman.

A trio composed of Jim Graves, Jan Young and Paul Montemurro play Christmas jazz.



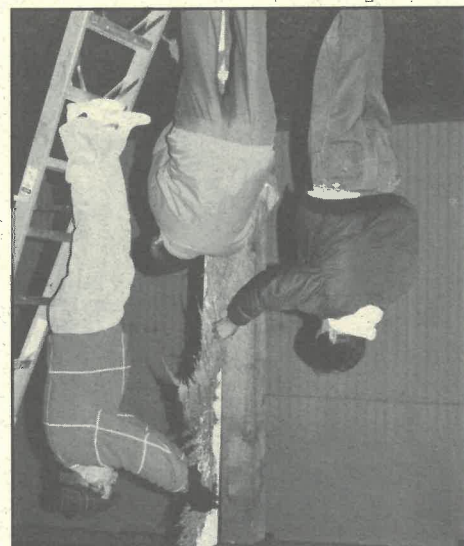
Clint Sims

Jason Abbott cuts wire while Carol Moya and Dick DeShon assemble garlands. Carlos Moya and Jim Graves are ready to offer their assistance.



Clint Sims

Tim Butner, Carlos Moya and Bill Brunner hang garlands on the exterior of the community room.



Clint Sims

Truman Middle School students under the direction of Karen Heyde provide Christmas music for the visitors.



Clint Sims

Modern-day Pony Express rider Joy Collins leaves the stables with a mochila full of Christmas cards and letters to Santa.



Clint Sims

Gentry Caw poses with Father Christmas (Bobby Sipes). Many visitors paused to chat and have a snapshot taken.



Jackie Lewin



Clint Sims

Volunteer Sheila Mayer demonstrates the art of spinning and carding wool.

Children enjoy making gingerbread men ornaments under the direction of Mignon DeShon who, along with Pat Benedict, coordinated the ornament workshop.



Clint Sims

RECENT DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTIONS:

PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL MEMORIAL

Joslyn Art Museum — a Pony Express Trail Marker Plaque and a medal commemorating the Pony Express Diamond Jubilee of 1935.

Corbyn Jacobs — Newspapers from Palmyra, Missouri, Hannibal Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri, and Quincy, Illinois, discussing the dedication of William H. Russell's grave (one of the founders of the Pony Express) in Palmyra. Newspapers from Kansas City, Missouri, reporting on the effort to preserve the home of Alexander Majors (another of the founders of the Pony Express). Various documents regarding "Historic Palmyra, Missouri," envelopes commemorating the Pony Express, and the dedication of Russell's grave, programs from that dedication and letterhead from the William H. Russell Memorial Association. Also donated were photographs of the people involved with raising the money for Russell's grave, dignitaries present at the dedication, descendants of Russell and Majors present at the ceremony, the memorial and Russell's grave and the plaque to honor William B. Waddell (third founder of the Pony Express).

Hans J. Hubl — a map of the Pony Express Trail with the stations noted and named. Map was created by Mr. Hubl and his friend Wolfgang Skoczowsky. Mr. Skoczowsky did the artwork, while Mr. Hubl compiled the list of names. Both men reside in Germany.

ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM

Lula Lamme — a letter from William Chenoweth to his wife dated April 29, 1849. He was part of wagon train that was camping two miles above St. Joseph when he wrote the letter. The letter is addressed to Sarah Chenoweth in Perry Pike, County, Illinois.

John Mullinax — a map of St. Joseph dated about 1870. The framed map hung in the donor's office.

Edith Gallagher — letters donated previously, but not accessed. They concern the Parker family who lived in Boston, Massachusetts. The earliest letters are about Nathaniel Parker, his life in the California Mines and his death. Most of the letters were written during the Civil War between Benjamin Parker and his sister Louisa.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Kenneth Miller — Newspapers, letters, stationery, business cards, packing orders, photographs and bottles from the Louis Fuelling and Sons Bottling Company. (see related article)

Several of the bottles in the photo at right may look familiar to many of our members. Perhaps you will remember enjoying a cold root beer or a refreshing ginger ale that was bottled in something similar to those pictured. If so, you can thank the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. H. Kenneth Miller for this short trip down memory lane. They have donated a large collection of bottles, glassware, and documents relating to the bottling industry in St. Joseph.

The items they donated came from a bottling company that was opened by Albert Andriano in St. Joseph 1855. After the Civil War, Joseph Andriano (Albert's son) purchased the business and later formed a partnership with Louis Fuelling. Andriano sold his share to Fuelling in 1871. Louis Fuelling & Sons owned and operated the plant until 1921 when it was purchased by Harry Miller, father of the donor. Midland Bottling Company purchased the enterprise from Miller in 1953. Around 1976, the operation was sold to Pepsi-Cola

Story continued from page 3

surprised. First, when the staff surprised me in 1990 with a luncheon at Galvin's for my 25th Anniversary at the museum and then this grand surprise. I was deeply touched and very pleased on both occasions.

After the event, Nancy told me that she did not know, nor did anyone else know, the exact date that I became director. Even June, who has been with me all these years, did not remember the exact date, just that it was around the first of the year. So, Nancy decided to set the date for December 1. I was able to tell her the "rest of the story." The official date that I became director was January 1, 1968. However, my predecessor had left on December 1, 1967, using up vacation leave. Therefore, Nancy had unknowingly picked the exact date that I had unofficially become director!

December 1 has very pleasant memories for me. From the bottom of my heart and with the utmost sincerity, I thank Nancy and Clark for their coordination and all of the Trustees for their enthusiastic participation and support and their best wishes for another 25 years!

Ed Miller

NEW AND REINSTATED MEMBERS

The Pony Express National Memorial membership booth at the Christmas event in December was a successful project. The booth was staffed by the trustees of the Pony Express National Memorial which gave them an opportunity to greet museum visitors. Several memberships were purchased as gifts and one membership included an application for a matching gift from the Butler Manufacturing Company. A matching gift from a company or corporation means that an amount equal to that donated by the employee to a non-profit corporation will also be donated by the company.

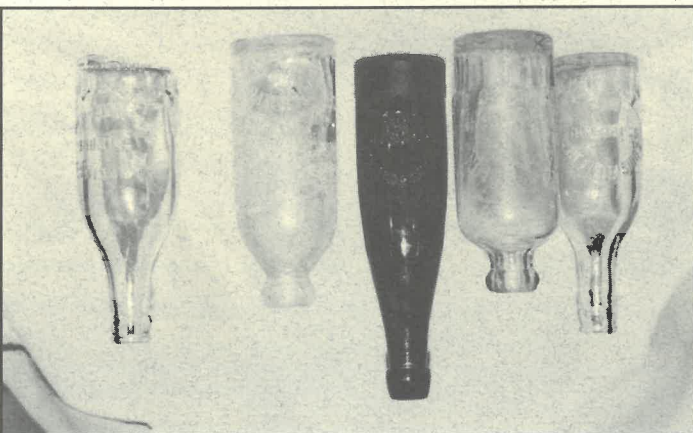
The Pony Express National Memorial board of trustees and staff are pleased to welcome the following new members, many of whom joined the museum during the Pony Express Christmas. We would like to express our gratitude to them and to the Butler Manufacturing Company for their generous support.

Larry Lawson
Betty L. Bartles
Dr. John Tapia and
Denise Bartles-Tapia
Dale Hallman
Clarence W. Black
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Oliver
Joseph Nardone
Dr. and Mrs. David Oliver
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eaton
Jeffrey and
Kathleen Missman

General Bottlers, Inc. At that time, it was over a 120 years old and believed to be the oldest, continuously operating soft drink bottling plant in the country.

We thank Mr. and Mrs. Miller for their donation and for choosing the St. Joseph Museum as the caretaker of these items.

Bottles from Louis Fuelling & Sons.



Clim Sims

LEAH SPRATT CHALLENGE

Leah Spratt has provided us with a wonderful opportunity, through a \$50,000 challenge grant, to purchase the apartments immediately east of the Pony Express National Memorial. For years, the apartments have been a serious liability to the museum.

These apartments have just become available, and Miss Spratt, visualizing the possibilities, has established this challenge with the following conditions:

- 1) The purchase be completed by February 15.
- 2) The tenants be notified by March 1.
- 3) All tenants relocated by April 15, and
- 4) The apartments razed and landscaped by June 1.

In Miss Spratt's own words, "I feel that when these units are torn down, that this area can be landscaped and beautified with shrubs and flowers. The memorial itself will be more visible and inviting to local people as well as the thousands of tourists who visit St. Joseph."

It is anticipated that we will need \$100,000 in addition to Miss Spratt's \$50,000 in order to complete the project. We have a signed contract with the seller for \$99,000 with an addendum stating that the seller is responsible for notifying and relocating the tenants. A bid for \$37,500 to raze the apartments has been received.

At this time, we have received enough cash and pledges to purchase the apartments. The board has unanimously moved ahead and closed on the apartments with the anticipation that sufficient monies will be raised to demolish and landscape.

Time is of the essence, just as it was in the creation of the Pony Express itself. It was in January 1860 that the founders decided to organize the Pony Express. The first rider left from those historic stables at 914 Penn some 60 days later on April 3, 1860, at 7:15 p.m.! Would you please consider a pledge to meet this need?

Leah Spratt Challenge Pledge

Firm Name _____

TOTAL PLEDGE _____

Name _____

Date _____

Title _____

_____ Entire amount now

Mailing Address _____

_____ First year's payment now

_____ Check attached

Phone H _____ W _____

_____ Bill me

Signed _____

2nd year payment \$ _____ due ____/____/____ (date)

Make checks payable to: Pony Express Inc.

3rd year payment \$ _____ due ____/____/____ (date)

Mail to:

Pony Express National Memorial

P.O. Box 244

St. Joseph, MO 64502-0244

TOTAL PLEDGE

AMOUNT PAID

BALANCE

SOLICITOR

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

21 - **President's Day** - Holiday hours will be observed at the St. Joseph Museum, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

28 - **The St. Joseph Archaeological Society** will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Pony Express National Memorial, 914 Penn Street.

March

8 - **The Gateway Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association** will meet at 7:00 p.m. The topic will be "Dinner on the Trail." The meeting will be held at 2610 Messanie Street.

28 - **The St. Joseph Archaeological Society** will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Pony Express National Memorial, 914 Penn Street.

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ New member ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift

Your Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone (____) _____

Gift membership for: (please fill in your name above)

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone (____) _____

Membership level:

___ \$1000.00	Patron	___ \$100.00	Donor
___ 500.00	Fellow	___ 50.00	Subscribing
___ 250.00	Sponsor	___ 25.00	Sustaining

All contributions are equally divided between the St. Joseph Museum and Pony Express National Memorial unless otherwise specified.

Enclosed is a check for:
\$ _____

Please make your check payable to the St. Joseph Museum or Pony Express National Memorial and mail to:

**ST. JOSEPH
MUSEUM**
1100 Charles Street
St. Joseph, Missouri
64501-2874

Your contribution provides a one-year membership for you and your immediate family. A majority of your membership contribution is tax deductible under 1994 IRS guidelines for charitable contributions. After receiving your membership, we will send you a receipt that includes further information on tax deductibility.

For more museum information call 232-8471

Printed on Recycled Paper

St. Joseph Museum

1100 Charles Street

St. Joseph, Missouri 64501-2874

Monday through Saturday 9-5 p.m.

Sundays 1-5 p.m.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. JOSEPH, MO
PERMIT NO. 40

Pony Express National Memorial

914 Penn Street, P.O. Box 244

St. Joseph, Missouri 64502-0244

Monday through Saturday 9-5 p.m.

Sundays 1-5 p.m.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED