

# The Happenings

## St. Joseph Museums, Inc. July, August, September 2008

### Spring Road Trip to Study the Body & Restore the Soul



Above, l to r: Sharon Ruhnke, Ann Updegraff, Joyce Edwards, & Donna Jean Boyer took pictures as they walked through Powell Gardens.



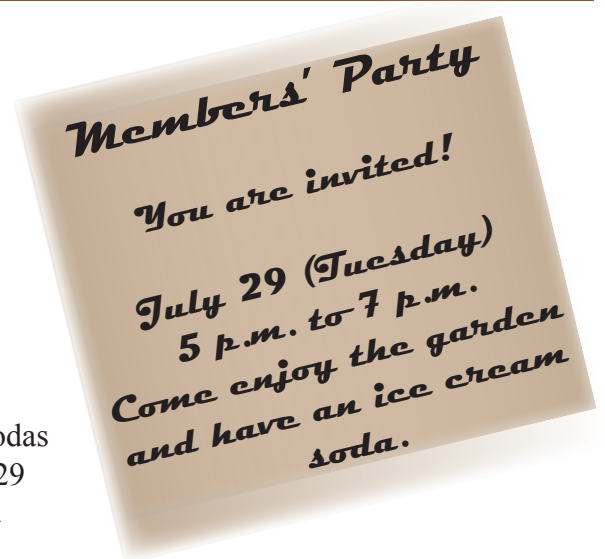
Left, l to r: Sue Wagner & Joyce Edwards with their tickets in the Union Station lobby.



Above, l to r: Dorothy & Glen Smith, Clarice Moore and Rachel Richey by the water garden area of Powell Gardens.

### New Butterfly Garden

Through grants from the Missouri Conservation Department and the Shultz Family Foundation, a butterfly garden is being established on the grounds of the Museums on Frederick Avenue. Both of these donors have certainly helped make the grounds more beautiful. Last summer the water garden pond was restored and more landscaping around the pond area has taken place this year. A special viewing with ice cream sodas for "members only" will be held on July 29 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please join us for a relaxing evening and treat.



# Announcements

## Update - Contract to Provide Municipal Museum for the City

On June 19, the Board of Trustees held a special meeting to approve the final version of the contract as presented by the City Council. The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., will be providing Municipal Museum for the citizens of St. Joseph in return for the Museum Tax Revenues. The contract will now be placed on the City Council agenda for a first and second reading before adoption. Thank you to the many of you who wrote letters to your council members. Your support during this time is extremely important.

## Esther Kreek, Adjunct Staff Member

Many of you know Esther Kreek who served as the Historical Music Consultant Adjunct Staff Member for many years. Esther first became involved with the museum in the late 1970s as the featured hammered dulcimer player for Prairie View Festival. The ensuing relationship has been a rewarding one for the St. Joseph Museums. Esther has now decided to move to the coast of Alabama where the winters are pleasant and where she will be able to continue her musical opportunities. We wish her well.

## Just a Few Seats Left!

Don't miss out on the fun. There are just a few seats left for the Springfield, Illinois, trip. Sites to be visited are the Lincoln home and tomb and the new Lincoln Presidential Museum. Date for the tour is August 5 and 6. Included in the cost (\$198 for members) are 4 meals, lodging, transportation, and all admission fees. Please call the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., at 816.232.8471 ASAP to reserve a seat.

## Election Year Commemorated

The St. Joseph Museum is featuring a new exhibit room on Elections. Artifacts from the museum's collections – campaign buttons, memorabilia, posters, historic newspapers – as well as items on loan from the Buchanan County Clerks office will be on display. Special features of the colorful exhibits are interactive items and an exhibit case which will appeal to children. Amy Grier, director of education, has designed the exhibit with construction aid from Andy Meyer, head of maintenance and security. The Elections exhibit will be open until just after the inauguration of the new U.S. President in January.

## Perfect Location for Your Party or Meeting



Many groups and wedding parties have found that the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion is the perfect location for their luncheon, reception, or dinners. Some have provided their own food, and others have hired an outside caterer or hired the Museum staff. If you would like more information about rental rates, please call the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., at 816.232.8471.

## Memorial Donations

Don't forget the St. Joseph Museums with your memorial donations. Donation cards are available at local funeral homes and in the office of the St. Joseph Museums, Inc.

## World's Wierdest Museums

In a recent article in the Kansas City Star, it was announced that according to [www.independenttraveler.com](http://www.independenttraveler.com) of the Chicago Tribune, the Glore Psychiatric Museum was listed as one of the top ten World's Wierdest Museums. Please visit their website for the full list. The staff has debated the benefit of such a distinction as the mission of the Glore Psychiatric Museum is to educate people about the history and progress of the treatment of mental illness as well as recognize the history of the State Hospital No. 2, which at one time was one of the largest employers in St. Joseph. However, such designation has marketing value as it brings tourists to St. Joseph and to the museum. Once here, they will also be educated about mental illness – an illness which touches nearly every family at one time or another.

## Museum Director honored by Kansas City Historic Trails Group

On April 30 at the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association annual membership meeting in Overland Park, Kansas, Jackie Lewin was presented with the Award of Distinguished Achievement. The annual awards ceremony recognizes people who have made significant contributions to preservation of and education about the historic trails of the mid-1800s. Lewin's award was in recognition of her many years of personal leadership and outstanding achievement, both nationally and locally in helping to lead the effort to preserve historic trails in the St. Joseph and Kansas City areas.

She has co-authored two books on the trails, *The St. Joe Road* about the Oregon and California Trails and *Winds of Destiny* about the Pony Express. Her involvement has included work with the local chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association and as the organizations first and only woman national president. She also served as president of the area chapter of the Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail Foundation. She was recognized for her work as former site administrator of the Pony Express National Museum and as now, the executive director of the St. Joseph Museums, Inc.

*Craig Crease (right), president of the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association and Ross Marshall (left), secretary of the Association and president of the Partnership of the National Trails System presented the Distinguished Achievement Award to Jackie Lewin.*



*Above, l to r: Robin Swaboda, her producer Kevin, & Director of Marketing, Kathy Reno, get ready to tape a tour of the Glore Psychiatric Museum.*

Former St. Joseph resident, Robin Swaboda of the Cleveland, Ohio, television show, "That's Life with Robin Swaboda," visited the Glore Psychiatric Museum to tape a tour of the museum for a May segment called "Robin Goes Home." The show featured the many St. Joseph locations that she remembered from her childhood. The hour long morning show aired on Fox 8 Channel WJW in Cleveland.

## 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

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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

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# The Black Archives Museum Hosts Retired Baseball Umpire

The last surviving umpire from the Negro Baseball Leagues visited the Black Archives Museum in April to share memories from his amazing life and career. After the program, he answered questions from members of the audience and signed copies of his memoir, *Umpiring in the Negro Baseball Leagues and Beyond*.

*Right: Bob Motley shakes hands with young baseball player, Eric Siemens, who attended the program with his father Ken.*



# Japanese Friendship Dolls Videoconference

Miss Hyogo, the Japanese Friendship Doll donated to the St. Joseph Museum in 1929, was featured on June 5 & 6 in a video conference with the Milwaukee Public Museum, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and the North Dakota State University. Children from all of these areas heard the stories of the various Friendship Dolls. Central High School freshman cheerleaders donned kimonos to help host the St. Joseph site. Special thanks to Zakary Schneeflock of the St. Joseph School District technology department,



# Doll Festival and Workshop

On May 9, several local doll collectors gathered at the Wyeth-Tootle Mansion for the Doll Festival. Japanese Friendship dolls from local schools were included and Margaret Corbet brought Miss Miyagi, sister to Miss Hyogo, for the event. Miss Miyagi and Miss Hyogo will be on display until mid-July. Japanese carp kites, origami birds, dolls and decorated Japanese paper dolls were created by the children who attended. Refreshments at the event were graciously donated by Hy-Vee.



# Mental Health Month Celebrated



*Above: Children with their carp kites.  
Left: Suzanne Lehr visits with Margaret Corbet and her daughter Dody Burkes.*

Special guest speaker Dr. Daniel Wedding of St. Louis presented “History of Mental Health Treatment in Missouri” at the Glore Psychiatric Museum on May 29. In attendance was Dr. Ron Dittmore, retired superintendent of St. Joseph State Hospital.

*Left: Dr. Ron Dittmore & Dr. Daniel Wedding stop to talk after the program.*

# CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Eighteen Central High School seniors volunteered to spruce up the grounds at the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., Frederick Avenue site during Senior Service Day. The landscaping projects included spreading cedar mulch, planting flowers, and weeding the many flower beds on the property. This work was the first step in preparing the grounds for the butterfly garden/outdoor classroom, which was made possible by a grant from the Missouri Department of Conservation. The butterfly garden will open on July 29.

*Central High School Seniors begin the process of spreading mulch in the flower gardens on the Museum grounds.*



*Left, l to r: With Jason Callaway at the wheel, Martin & LaVell Rucker get ready for the start of the Juneteenth Parade.*

## Juneteenth Parade

The Black Archives Museum was represented in the Juneteenth Parade by this year's Hall of Fame Inductees, Martin & LaVell Rucker. The parade, which was held on Saturday, June 14, was one of many local Juneteenth events.

Special thanks to Cecil Myers for his loan of a car to the Black Archives Museum for use in the parade.

## African Textile Workshop for Youth

The Black Archives Museum, of the St. Joseph Museums, Inc., presented an African Textile Printing workshop at the Bartlett Center on June 12 and 13 for youth of all ages. The textile workshop was part of a series of activities during the local celebration of Juneteenth. Over forty children participated in the afternoons activities, which included learning the art of traditional African textile printing using gourds and flower/paste indigo resist.



*Youngsters created African masks during the African textile workshop at the Bartlett Center*

# E. J. ECKEL COLLECTION UPDATE

Several people have contacted the museum staff with research questions regarding access to the Eckel collection information. To answer that question for others of you as well, we want to give you an update on how the collection is being processed. The collection consists of over 50,000 items including blueprints, tracings, magazines, books, photographs, renderings, and correspondence. Although donor Reed Graves had sorted and recorded the collection in a manner suited to architectural needs, the museum needs to sort it to an even finer degree. Shelving has to be purchased or constructed to house the collection. To aid in retrieval of each item, a permanent storage location will be established. Then, a corps of volunteers will be needed to access (assign a museum donor number) each item and record it in a computer database. When completed, a researcher should be able to request information about a particular building and through the computer database, we would be able to provide the researcher with any category of material - correspondence, specs, blueprints, references in the architects journals, etc., related to their request.

Currently we are in the first phase of moving, sorting, and finding a home location for items. By fall, it is hoped this will be complete and then volunteers will be sought to go through each category, identify it further, and record information about it in the database. If any of you are looking for a really interesting volunteer project to help the museum, please let us know. The more volunteers we have, the sooner the collection will be accessible to the public.

These photos are a sampling from the collection.



*Nancy Hampton arranges correspondence files in the cabinet.*



*Above: Edmund Eckel (right) and several employees look at a blueprint.*



*Above: Commercial Block Building at 203 South 6th Street.*



*Left: Steinacker School, (1884-1907) southwest corner of 2nd & Lewis. Named after Joseph Steinacker, former school board member.*

**Help!**  
**We need a donation of 4 legal size file cabinets - new or used.**

## Donations to Collections

**Bob Brown** - Group photo of members of the St. Joseph Stockyard Exchange taken in 1899.

**Arthur F. and Catherine D. Crouch** - Framed collage of “Farewell to Robidoux” memorabilia from time of January 1976 demolition of Hotel Roidoux. Brick bookends from 1886 addition to the St. Joseph State Hospital.

**Hall Abstract & Title Company** - 1894-2003 St. Joseph City Directories. Abstracts from various area properties.

**Betty Krofft** - 1940s wedding dress and veil made by donor’s mother and worn by donor and donor’s daughter.

**Andy & Susan Meyer** -1940s book of wallpaper samples from the Henry Voss Wallpaper Company.

**Georgellen Mikkleson** - Four quilts and two coverlets. One coverlet from the 1840s, was brought to Buchanan County by an ancestor of donor.

## New and Renewed Members

**March 17 2008 to June 19, 2008**

### Renewals

Dr. & Mrs. Jimmy Albright  
Dr. Thomas & Susan Alderson  
Marci Bennett & Gary Hazelrigg  
William & Margo Bischof  
David Bridenstine  
Mr. David R. Bradley, Jr.  
David R. Bradley, III  
Mr. Hank Bradley  
Katherine Bradley  
Stephane Bradley  
Suzanne B. Bradley  
Mr. Robert A. Brown, Jr.  
William Brown  
Mr. & Mrs. William Brunner  
Marilyn Bryan  
John & Melba Burnham  
Gary Butchart – Butchart  
Flowers Inc.  
Mr. & Mrs. John Burns  
Cindi Burri  
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Callaway  
Dr. & Mrs. G. T. Carpenter  
Commerce Bank  
Mary Conrad  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim D. Feagins  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Fisher  
Mrs. Lyman Fulkerson  
Joseph & Stacchya Gray  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry J. Grey  
Amy & Stacy Grier

Mr. Lawrence Goldberg &  
Patricia Boice  
Ellen Hale  
Cosette Hardwick  
Dr. & Mrs. Anthony Ingino  
Charlene & Charles Jorgensen, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore M. Kranitz  
Delia Lamb  
Barbara Liechti  
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Lowenberg  
Brad McAnally  
Evelyn McClure  
Jacqueline McClure-American  
Family Insurance  
Dr. James McMillen  
Mariella Manville  
Andy Meyer  
News Press & Gazette Company  
Steve & Jeannie Pitluck  
Mrs. Jewell Robinson  
Louanne Robreau  
Joyce Rochambeau  
Mr. George Roth  
Tim Riley  
William & Jane S. Rhule  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Scarborough  
Ken & Sarah Siemens  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Simpson  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Sprong  
Eleanor Stark  
Bernadine Stevenson

Jim & Linda Summers, Jr.  
Mr. V. Craig Sumner, CPA  
Del & Joyce Sutherland  
Mr. A. W. Thedinga  
Eleanor Thomas  
Mr. Jack Tootle  
Joan & Richard Wagner  
John & Diane Watson  
Marshall White

### New Members

Leonard Anderson  
Vera Hinderks  
Mary Keck  
John & Mary Mullinax

### Donations

Anonymous  
Andy Meyer  
Leah Spratt Charitable Trust

### Donor to the 2007 Annual Fund Drive

Mr. John P. Barclay, Jr.

### Memorials and Honorariums

Mr. & Mrs. John Foley in honor of  
Richard DeShon  
Westward Ho Chapter 173 Questers in  
memory of Edna Rizer

# Calendar of Events

**June 6 to September 5 - Midwestern Mental Health Art Invitational - 2008, Glore Psychiatric Museum, 3406 Frederick Avenue** - Features over thirty 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.

**July 24 & 31 - American Girl® Doll Club, Wyeth-Tootle Mansion, 1100 Charles St., 2 to 4 p.m.** - The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., will host play dates for area American Girl® doll collectors and provide related activities. There is no charge to join in the fun. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information.

**July 29 - Butterfly Garden Open House for Museum Members, St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., 5 to 7 p.m.** - The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., will host an open house for Museum Members to showcase the new butterfly garden on the museum grounds. The event will also feature refreshments and butterfly houses by a local artist. Museum Members are invited.

**August 11 through 14 - Butterfly Science Camp, Session I - St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., 10 a.m. to Noon** - The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., presents Butterfly Science Camp I for students from 6 to 8 years of age featuring a variety of science projects related to the butterfly. The camp will be held for two hours each morning. The cost for the camp is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information or to make a reservation. There will be an optional field trip to the Henry Doorly Zoo Butterfly Pavilion on August 22.

**August 18 through 21 - Butterfly Science Camp, Session II - St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., 10 a.m. to Noon** - The St. Joseph Museums, Inc., presents Butterfly Science Camp II for students from 9 to 11 years of age featuring a variety of science projects related to the butterfly. The camp will be held for two hours each morning. The cost for the camp is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information or to make a reservation. There will be an optional field trip to the Henry Doorly Zoo Butterfly Pavilion on August 22.

**August 22 - Butterfly Science Camp Field Trip, Leaving from the St. Joseph Museum, 3406 Frederick Ave., at 7 a.m. & returning at 7 p.m.** - This day-trip for students & adults will include a tour of the new Butterfly Pavilion at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, Nebraska. The fee for the trip is \$45 for museum members and \$50 for non-members. The fee includes lunch, snacks, zoo admission, and dinner at Sam & Louie's in the Old Market. Prepaid reservations are required by Friday, August 8. Please call 816.232.8471 for more information or to make a reservation.

**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.

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**St. Joseph, Missouri 64508**  
Thursday through Saturday 10-4 p.m.  
Sunday 1-4 p.m.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED