

Field Notes

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Winter 2017

A Night at the Museum

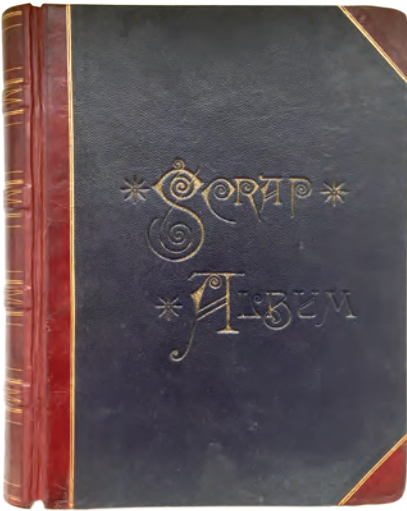
The dreams and ideas of our many long-time supporters, members, and friends were celebrated during “A Night at the Museum,” a preview party marking the completion of our 18-month journey of expansion and growth. Along with spirited addresses honoring our key donors, guests enjoyed the premiere of the Eugene Field Library. The library, which showcases a collection of works by and about Eugene Field, was gifted by Marianne and Peter Gleich. Guests explored the museum’s new exhibits and were captivated by a special musical performance of Eugene Field’s works by Scott Kennebeck. We would like to give a special thank you to all of those who helped to make this evening a night to remember!



(A) Paul & Carolyn Hacker and Marianne & Peter Gleich; (B) William Piper remarks (C) Tony & Susan Favazza; (D) Architect, John Guenther & Jane Guenther; (E) Don & Shirley Zork and Jim Wallace; (F) Jennifer Shanks and Architect, Dennis Tacchi; (G) Jane Gleason & William Piper (H) Ginny McDonald and Peter Wollenberg; (I) Sally Menke and guests;

Treasures From The Collection A Victorian Scrapbook

By Marianne Gleich



Scrapbooking as it is known today became popular in the 19th century, albeit in a slightly different format. This pastime was viewed as a manner with which to preserve special items of personal interest, including all types of materials from poems to cartes-de-visite (calling cards) to recipes and, in Eugene Field's case, to preserve precious newspaper clippings. Whatever the reason for compiling the memorabilia, these scrapbooks from time gone by offer us a look into the cultural events and diverse lifestyles of the period, shedding light on the private lives of the person making the scrapbook.

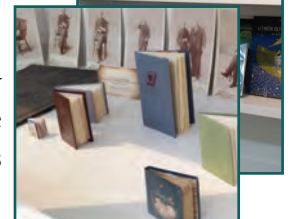
The history of the scrapbook includes some well-known names, in addition to Eugene Field. Collections show that our third President, Thomas Jefferson, was one of the first notable Americans to gather items for a personal album. With an idea of preserving information from his presidency as well as passing the books on to his heirs, Jefferson compiled a series of albums and filled them with poems, newspaper clippings and other items of interest. The term "scrapbook" was not used in this time, coming into existence around 1825 near the end of President Jefferson's life.

Mark Twain was another early American who cherished scrapbooks. Ever the showman, Twain invented scrapbooking supplies which showcased his, and others', collections by using pre-pasted pages for which he received a patent in 1872. This invention allowed him to easily travel with scrapbooks during his numerous voyages and to share his personal albums with others. It is believed that this pre-pasted page invention brought a handy profit to Twain, as well as making it one of his most popular "books". According to an article in The St. Louis Post-Dispatch in 1885, Mark Twain earned \$50,000 with his idea for self-pasting strips of glue. By 1901, Twain had patented 57 different types of scrapbooks.

The Field House Museum is fortunate to have in its collection Eugene Field's personal scrap album which is currently on display in the new museum library. Recently donated to the museum, the album cover is made of beautifully tooled leather in a rich, deep red burgundy accented with navy blue, which was a

popular type of album cover during the mid-1800s. Eugene's "Scrap Album", which is the title on the cover and not the word "scrapbook", contains 95 articles which he clipped from newspapers published far and wide, all of which pertain to his charming book *Love Songs of Childhood*. Beside each meticulously placed article is an annotation in Eugene's microscopic hand indicating information he deemed important, especially the date of the article. These articles appeared in print late in Eugene's career, the last dated just a few months prior to his untimely death in 1895. It is interesting that he chose articles pertaining solely to *Love Songs of Childhood* and that he realized and appreciated the popularity of this particular book, as well as his soaring personal popularity.

A visit to the new Field House Museum library will allow you to view this treasure in person along with myriad items pertinent to Eugene Field, his father Roswell and Dred Scott. The library is open to visitors during regular museum hours.





William R. Piper



Peter Gleich



Karen Kloth and Marianne Gleich

Field House Museum Grand Reopening

The Field House Museum reopened its doors to the public with a much-anticipated ceremony on December 8, 2016. The festivities included guest speakers, musical selections from the Rosewood Ensemble, an appearance by Mr. Mark Twain, and a special musical performance of Eugene Field's works as sung by Scott Kennebeck with accompaniment by Matthew Mazzoni. Guided tours of the museum were given by Barbara Decker, Guest Curator, and museum staff.



(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



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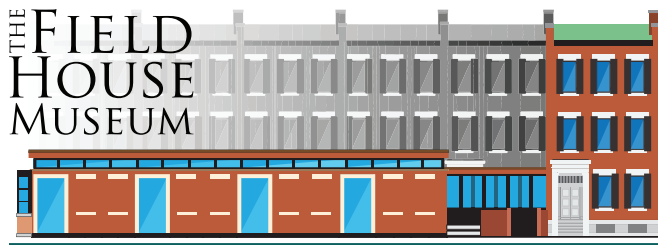
(F)

(A) Alderman, Jack Coatar; (B) Scott Kennebeck; (C) Dr. Brian A. Ragen; (D) Rosewood Ensemble; (E) John Paul Johnson, Mayor's assistant; (F) Barbara Decker Franklin, Guest Curator and Tom Kavanaugh, Exhibit Graphic Design

Museum Now Open Wednesday - Sunday

Although the ceremonies are over, you can still visit the museum every Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, and Sunday, noon to 4:00 pm, to see our new expanded museum and library. Explore the extensive Gleich Collection in the Eugene Field Library, as well as our new exhibits, "What's Past is Prologue: A House Brimming with Stories" and "Fields of Play: The Joyful Collections of Don & Shirley Zork," or take a guided tour of the historic house.





WHERE INSPIRATION HAS A HOME

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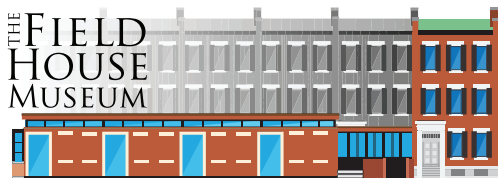
fieldhousemuseum.org

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New Logo

With the the 4,000-square-foot expansion of the building and the introduction of our new name—the Field House Museum—we have seen many changes over the past year. Our new logo showcases these changes, while also honoring our past. The image illustrates the new expansion, combined with the shadow of the old row behind, with tall windows now placed where doorways once stood.



Our Gift Shop Has Expanded & Moved

One of the many changes that you will see in our museum is that the gift shop has moved! No longer tucked away on the third floor of the house, our gift shop is now one the of first things our guests and visitors see when they come through the doors of our new entrance. In addition to the new location, we have many great new lines available. Stop by during museum hours or visit our online store anytime!

