



Field Notes

THE EUGENE FIELD HOUSE & ST. LOUIS TOY MUSEUM
National Historic Landmark • City of St. Louis Landmark • National Register of Historic Places

Volume 19 - Number 2

Fall 2012

From the President...



It's been a productive summer at 634 S. Broadway, with the usual "excitement" involved with keeping a mature structure functional, especially with keeping the temperature at a Goldilocks level. This was a challenge for the staff, especially during the two lengthy runs of extreme heat, but the job was done. Let's just hope we don't want a few of those degree days when the Christmas house tour comes around in late November. I certainly hope as many of you as possible will come to see us dolled up, as well as check out the "competition", without all of whom we wouldn't be able to have as wonderful an event as it has been.

As has been true too often lately, I must report the loss of a good friend of the House. Annette Riney worked faithfully as a do-it-all volunteer for many years in the 1970s and 80s and served as the interim director immediately before Fran Walrond became the permanent director, continuing to help from time to time thereafter. Annette made a huge contribution to keeping the operation going at a critical time and was always an enthusiastic supporter, invariably aided by her husband, Marvin, whom I cannot thank enough for his help with many a project over the years. We will miss her badly.

Similarly, our longtime board member Estelle Powers passed away recently. Estelle was always a reliable supporter of the House and good enlister of members, as well as a lover of dolls and Teddy bears. We'll miss her cheerfulness very much.

The last departure I will note is a little less grim but still a great loss. Taylor McMullin has been made an offer by AT&T which it would be madness to refuse from a career standpoint. However, it involves moving to Dallas, Texas. As a result, he is resigning his post as Treasurer, which he has held for the last several years, during which time he made great strides in improving any number of our systems for reporting and vastly improved the daily chores involved in payroll, tax reporting and all the other aspects of our business operations. I'll miss very much his efforts as an impresario and will tell you flat out that the whole Hal Holbrook event earlier this year was his baby and would never have come off without his utterly tireless devotion to making it happen. Taylor's work is the epitome of what one can ever hope for from anyone involved in an enterprise such as ours. He has agreed to remain as a board member, even though this means we may have to amend the bylaws to allow participation in meetings by conference call. Maurice Quiroga, with whom I feel sure most of you are familiar already (and whose PNC Bank provides our regular board meeting site), has agreed to shoulder the burden Taylor is passing along. It's a tough job, especially when you're trying to work it in with your "real" work. I hope everyone will give Taylor great thanks and Maurice your avid support.

As you may well know by now, we went somewhat "afield" (couldn't resist that) for our latest event. Our "Field Trip" was on the bluffs of the Missouri River at the wonderful Strathalbyn Farms Club in St. Charles County. Shirley Zork outdid herself in putting together auction items, and she and event co-chair Karen Klohr made it a remarkable evening. The final figure on what was realized is still being worked out, but the numbers I've seen so far indicate success on the scale of the event at Greystone last year. Many thanks to everyone who pitched in.

Finally, I'll emphasize again that we'll have opportunities to mingle at the House coming up in the next couple of months, focusing, as always, on the observance of Christmas. Please join us for the fun, which makes possible the work.

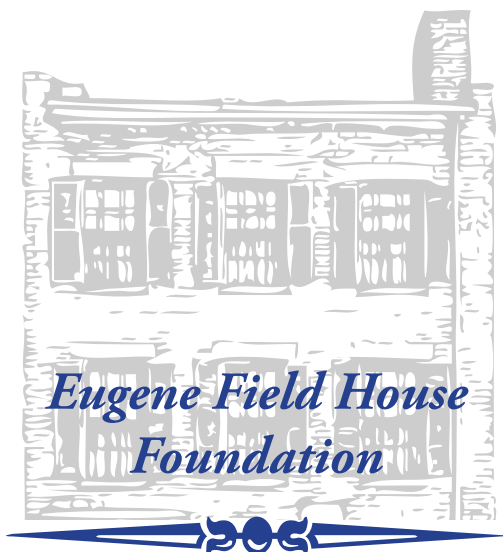
William R. Piper

William R. Piper
President

Mark your Calendars ~ November 29, 2012



The St. Louis Holiday Historic House Tour
See page 3 for more info...



~ **President** ~
William R. Piper

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D.J. Moore

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Charles Brennan

~ **Executive Director** ~
Kimberly Ann Larson

Volunteer Spotlight

The Eugene Field House & St. Louis Toy Museum would like to thank our wonderful docent volunteers for all their hard work.



Lisa Bushey (*photo top left*) began volunteering at Eugene Field House in April. She has worked as a copy editor since 1992. Lisa’s skills are a valuable asset to the museum’s exhibits and publications. Welcome, Lisa!



Abby Hathaway (*photo middle left*) is a returning volunteer to Eugene Field House. She is completing her PhD in Public History at Middle Tennessee State University. Abby will be updating our archives. Welcome back, Abby!



Kate Neville (*photo bottom left*) is a junior Art History major at Vassar College. As a volunteer, Kate primarily worked on researching our toy collection. A Russian minor, Kate is studying abroad in St. Petersburg this semester. Best of luck, Kate!

Christina Latzer has been volunteering at Eugene Field House since March. She has a degree in Anthropology from the University of Missouri - St. Louis. Christina has been working specifically with artifacts from the Field family. Welcome, Christina!



The Mission Continues at The Eugene Field House & St. Louis Toy Museum

On September 22, 2012, The Eugene Field House & St. Louis Toy Museum reached out to a new audience when we partnered with The Mission Continues for a service project. Veteran Curation Fellow Steve Wahle led 34 volunteers, veteran and civilian alike, in cleaning the attic and landscaping Eugene’s poetry garden. Thanks to Steve and the “Treasures in the Attic” team for their hard work – job well done!

The St. Louis Holiday Historic House Tour

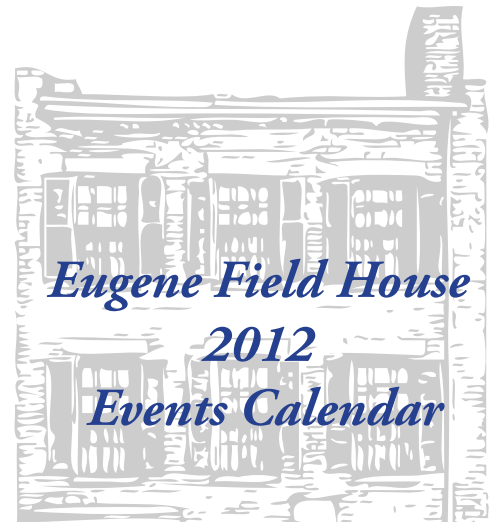
Thursday, November 29, 2012 ~ 3:00 - 8:00 pm



Normally held every other year, this special treat offers guests the opportunity to see some of St. Louis' finest historic homes and landmarks all decked out for the holidays. This year, the tour features The Eugene Field House & St. Louis Toy Museum, the Campbell House Museum, the Chatillon-DeMenil House, the Old Courthouse, and the Tower Grove House and Museum Building at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Complete with bus transportation, entertainment at each stop, and light refreshments, this is an evening not to be missed! For more information, please call the Campbell House Museum at 314-421-0325.

"Toys Take Over the Museum"

The museum staff has heard some whispers coming from our collection boxes. The toys are planning an escape. Should they succeed, we could have the *Toys Take Over the Museum!* Rediscover your inner child with this fun exhibit, opening November 15, 2012.



Eugene Field House 2012 Events Calendar

~ November 15 ~
"Toys Take Over the Museum"
Exhibit Opens

~ November 29 ~
The St. Louis Holiday
Historic House Tour

~ December 3 ~
Member's Holiday Party

~ January/February 2013 ~
Museum Closed



Visit Us Online
www.eugenefieldhouse.org



Brian Ragen, Bill and Susan Piper, Susan Favazza



Linda Maloney, Karen Klohr, Nancy and D.J. Diemer

A Field Trip to Strathalbyn Farms Club

Strathalbyn Event Committee

The Eugene Field House Foundation would like to especially thank the Strathalbyn Event Committee for all their hard work.

~ Host Members ~

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas H. Yaeger

~ Event Co-Chairs ~

Karen Klohr
Shirley Zork

~ Event Committee ~

Jane P. Gleason
Marianne Gleich
Peter Gleich
Kimberly Larson
Linda Maloney
Sally Menke
Taylor C. McMullin
William R. Piper
Brian Abel Ragen
Ron Sauget
Jennifer Shanks
Dennis Tacchi
Soraya Wolverson
Don Zork

The Eugene Field House Foundation is proud to say that our Field Trip to Strathalbyn Farms Club was a grand success. The Eugene Field House Foundation sincerely thanks the planning committee and event co-chairs, Ms. Karen Klohr and Mrs. Shirley Zork, for all their hard work. Strathalbyn Farms Club, a hidden gem of rustic charm, was the perfect setting for our gala celebration. Upon arrival, VIP patrons started the evening with a sunset cocktail hour at the gazebo, followed by a Scottish bagpipe-led procession to the auction. Guests enjoyed delectable appetizers and the fabulous sounds of the St. Louis Ragtimers while perusing the incredible array of silent auction items. After the silent auction, a delicious dinner of Cornish game hen was served. The evening was capped off with a live auction, emceed by the wonderful Mr. Bob Officer. Everyone agreed that the night could not have been better. The Eugene Field House Foundation, staff, and volunteers would like to extend their thanks to the underwriters, sponsors, and guests who attended this very successful event.



Eugene makes an appearance at the auction (above left).

Laura Hartung (above)
Shirley Zork, Bob and Mary Officer (right)

~ Strathalbyn Underwriters ~

Elma Armistead
Maureen and Vic Clever
Susan Favazza
Jane P. Gleason
Marianne and Peter Gleich
Sidney Guller
Karen Klohr
Linda and Joe Maloney
Taylor C. McMullin
Sally Menke
Mr. and Mrs. William R. Piper
Ronald J. Sauget
Soraya and Michael Wolverson
Shirley and Don Zork

~ Field Patrons ~

William Charron
Julia and Gerald O'Gorman
Brian Abel Ragen
Frances Weier

~ Strathalbyn Donors ~

Ellen Barrios
Donald Bergmann
Mary Clarkson
Marjorie Eddy
Mary Gorman
Terry Harmon
Barbara Hertenstein Jacobitti
Jane and Denis Kriegesies
Maurice Quiroga
Linda and Lee Rascovar
Melvin Richards
Russell and Virginia Viehmann

Photos provided by Black Tie - Missouri



Joe Maloney, Julia O'Gorman, Taylor McMullin, Linda Maloney



HONORARIA, MEMORIALS & DONATIONS

May 2012 – September 2012

~ Honorariums ~

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Kniep
in honor of Mrs. Jane P. Gleason

~ Memorials ~

Mrs. Jane P. Gleason
in memory of Mrs. Annette S. Riney

Marianne & Peter Gleich
in memory of Estelle Powers

Mrs. Gladys Myles
in memory of Mr. Robert H. LaBarge

~ Individual donations ~

Mrs. Laura Orthwein
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Piper

~ Expansion donations ~

Ms. Doris Austin

Della Reese Wrap-up



Franklin Lett, Della Reese and Taylor McMullin
Photo provided by Black Tie - Missouri

The Sheldon Concert Hall was host to a rare treat on July 27, 2012, when Della Reese performed her one-woman show, "My Life in Song." After the show, patrons were treated to an artist reception, where Ms. Reese graciously signed autographs and posed for pictures. Thank you from the Eugene Field House Foundation to all the guests, underwriters, and sponsors of this special evening.

WELCOME MEMBERS

The Eugene Field House Board of Trustees and the Staff would like to thank the following members who have continued to support the mission, preservation, and programming of the foundation with their generous membership donations.

~ Renewing Members ~

October 2011 - September 2012

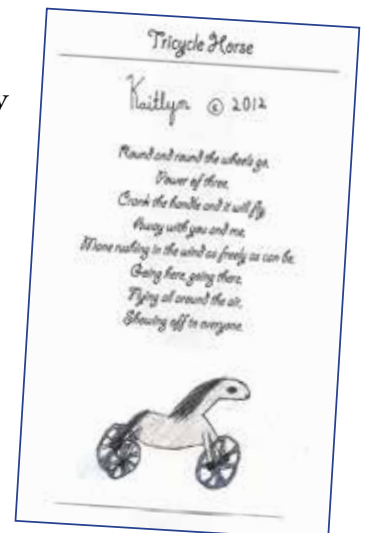
Ms. Susan Abernathy
Mr. Donald H. Bergmann
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Compton
Mrs. Helen Dean
Mr. James Grace
Mr. Darin Groll
Mr. Esley Hamilton
Mrs. Edith Heidbreder
Mr. & Mrs. James Howe III
Ms. Karen Klohr
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Oertli
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald O'Gorman
Mr. Melvin C. Richards
Mrs. Mary Sue D. Schusky
Mrs. John F. Schweiss
Mr. & Mrs. Russell H. Viehmann
Drs. Michael and Soraya Wolverson

~ New Member ~

Ms. Mary Ellen Anderson

Poems From Forsyth School

As mentioned in the last "Field Notes," the Eugene Field House & St. Louis Toy Museum is showcasing five original poems from third graders at Forsyth School throughout 2012. Here is "Tricycle Horse," inspired by the antique tricycle on exhibit in the library. The author, Kaitlyn, and her family recently toured the museum with some relatives visiting from out of town.





The Eugene Field House &
St. Louis Toy Museum
634 South Broadway
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Contact Info:

Phone: 314.421.4689

Fax: 314.588.9468

Email: info@eugenefieldhouse.org

www.eugenefieldhouse.org

Editor: Kimberly Ann Larson

Content: Stephanie Bliss

Katherine Heugatter

Design & Layout: Graphic Masters

Printing: Minuteman Press of St. Louis



**We are open
Black Friday
Small Business Saturday**

Get big items this holiday season when you “shop small” at The Sugar Plum Tree Gift Shoppe on the third floor of The Eugene Field House & St. Louis Toy Museum. Whether you are looking for that fun and original gift or some unique home décor, this shop has something for everyone! Visit us during museum hours, Wednesday through Sunday, and let us help you find something special.

