



SPECIAL EDITION

Field Notes

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



From the President...

One of the foci of our activities in recent years has been identifying important figures associated with the Field family to broaden the scope of our appeal. A few months ago, one of our board members had an inspiration that left me dumbfounded.

For years, everyone's noted from time to time the photograph of the Hon. David R. Francis, sometime Mayor of St. Louis, Ambassador to Russia, etc., etc., accompanied by a gentleman in what appears to be a white suit (it is a monochrome photo, after all) and who was originally known as one Saml. Clemens before he stole his nom de plume fair and square from another man who plied the Mississippi. To mix

well-known stories, our treasurer, Taylor McMullin had a flash, which was a cross between "The Emperor's not really wearing any clothes at all!" and "Eureka!" Specifically, it was that there was a firm connection between Mr. Clemens and Mr. Field and that Hal Holbrook isn't getting any younger, so we should capitalize on that for a fund-raiser and try to arrange for a presentation of "Mark Twain Tonight".

Much corresponding, telephoning, messaging and so forth, followed this and the upshot is that this is going to come to pass in a very short time after you read this. Everyone has lent a hand and the job won't be finished until sometime after March 16th, when the props we'll have assembled are returned, but it's going to come off and it's been because someone got an idea and made it happen.

It's not the first time this has happened. In the picture I mentioned above, one can also see Jesse Henry, who would later lead the charge to save the House. Were it not for the action of one person, inspiring others to go forward, we would not be doing what we do today. Were it not for the efforts of a past president, we wouldn't have the property to the north of the house. Were it not for each one of us, some thing would not be accomplished, perhaps the significance of which we can't appreciate now but for which others will be grateful. So each of us, alone or in concert always needs to ask what we can be doing which we haven't already done or how we can do it better.

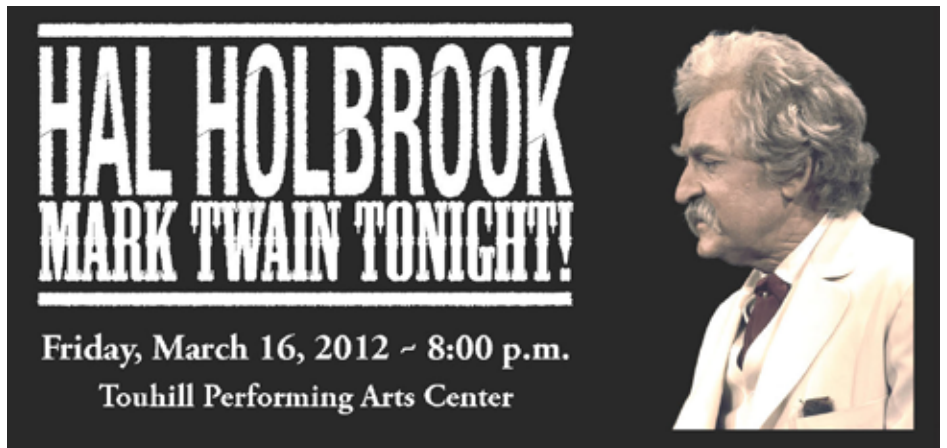
There's a quote by Helen Keller, which seems appropriate:

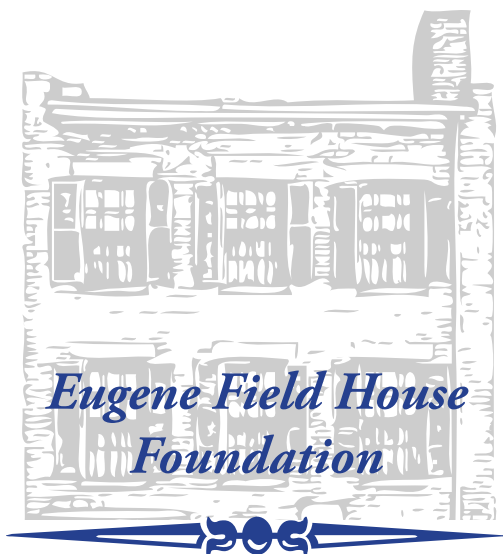
I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do.

I hope each of you will find it a "can do" to be on hand on the 16th. You will get see someone who's been wowing audiences as Mark Twain longer than the original and experience something truly extraordinary, all for the benefit of our cause

William R. Piper

William R. Piper
President





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William R. Piper

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Kimberly Ann Larson

Dear Supporter:

The Eugene Field House Foundation is embarking on a much-needed expansion to improve accessibility, exhibition, and education space beyond the existing historical home museum. With generous contributions from supporters like you, this project can become a reality. Please join us by supporting this fundraising production of "Mark Twain Tonight!"

Patron-level tickets are available directly from the Eugene Field House, and include front of house seating, pre-show reception, private intermission lounge, post-show artist reception (artist availability subject to change), program acknowledgment, and a tax deduction. Supporters at the top tier Diamond level will also receive a copy of Mr. Holbrook's new autobiography. A limited number of these tickets are available, so please respond as soon as possible. General public ticket sales can be bought directly from the Touhill Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, or online at www.touhill.org.

We greatly appreciate your support, and look forward to seeing you in March at this exciting performance.

Sincerely,

The Eugene Field House Foundation Board of Trustees

HAL HOLBROOK



MARK TWAIN TONIGHT!

Order your VIP Patron Level tickets today!

Friday, March 16, 2012 ~ 8:00 p.m.

A limited number of preferred seating patron-level tickets with additional amenities are now on sale directly through the Eugene Field House. These tickets can be reserved by contacting the Eugene Field House at 314-421-4689.

General public ticket sales will only be available through the Touhill Performing Arts Center Ticket Office. Please visit their website at www.touhill.org, or contact them at 314-516-4949 or toll-free 866-516-4949, for further information.

MARK TWAIN TONIGHT!

**Tony Award Winner and
N.Y. Drama Critics' Circle Special Citation**

"In Mark Twain Tonight! Hal Holbrook is so spectacular in his one-man performance that you could swear you were listening to Twain himself."

~ Amazon.com

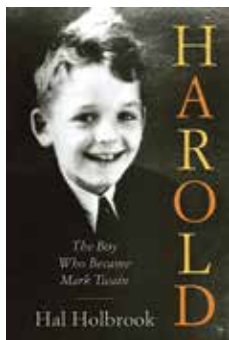
"Holbrook's characterization of the great novelist and raconteur is, to this day, a work in progress.

The transformation is so complete as to be almost unsettling at times. The combination of Holbrook's physical and vocal talents and the potency of Twain's words is a mesmerizing thing to behold."

~ Washington Post



KMOX/Fontbonne University Book Club



**Wednesday, March 14th
6 to 7:30 pm
Chase Park Plaza
212 N. Kingshighway**

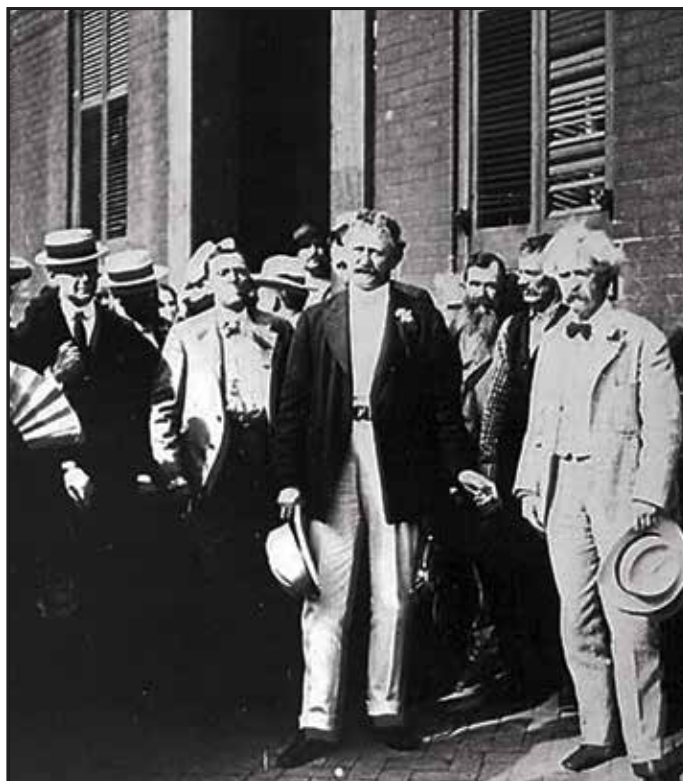
Join Charlie Brennan at the March book club event featuring Hal Holbrook, Emmy and Tony-Award Winning Actor and author of *Harold: The Boy Who Became Mark Twain*.

Holbrook tells his life story beautifully, moving smoothly from being a young boy abandoned by his parents to enjoying a celebrated career on stage and screen.

A celebrated actor who has starred in such films as *All the President's Men*, *Wall Street*, and *The Firm*, Hal Holbrook is best known for his portrayal of Mark Twain in the long-running one-man show *Mark Twain Tonight*. He has won five prime-time Emmy Awards for his work in television, and was nominated for an Academy Award in 2008 for his role in *Into the Wild*.

The event is free but reservations are required. Go to the KMOX web site and look for the RSVP link on the bottom of the home page.

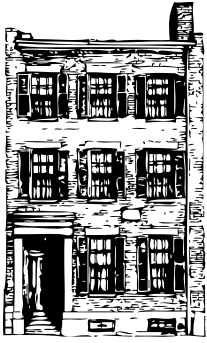
Mark Twain Stops in St. Louis



June 1902 dedication at Eugene Field House.

L-R: Jesse P. Henry, (The Daniel & Henry Company),
Carlos Hurd, David R. Francis (Past Governor of Missouri),
Mark Twain

In 1902, legendary Missouri native Mark Twain made his last trip to the state, stopping in St. Louis to dedicate a marker at the childhood home of his late friend and fellow author, Eugene Field. That occasion in 1902 was the start of many years of continued preservation of the row house at 634 South Broadway in downtown St. Louis that honors Field and his father, Roswell (noted attorney for Dred Scott). The Eugene Field House Foundation, now celebrating its 75th year, has continued that legacy of preservation and presentation for the public, having gained National Historic Landmark status for the home in 2007. As the Foundation looks beyond its 75th year, it has announced plans to expand beyond its current footprint, with the construction of much-needed accessible exhibition and education space. And to symbolically help kick-off this expansion and fundraising with a nod to the past, the Foundation is proud to present Hal Holbrook in his legendary performance of *"Mark Twain Tonight!"*.



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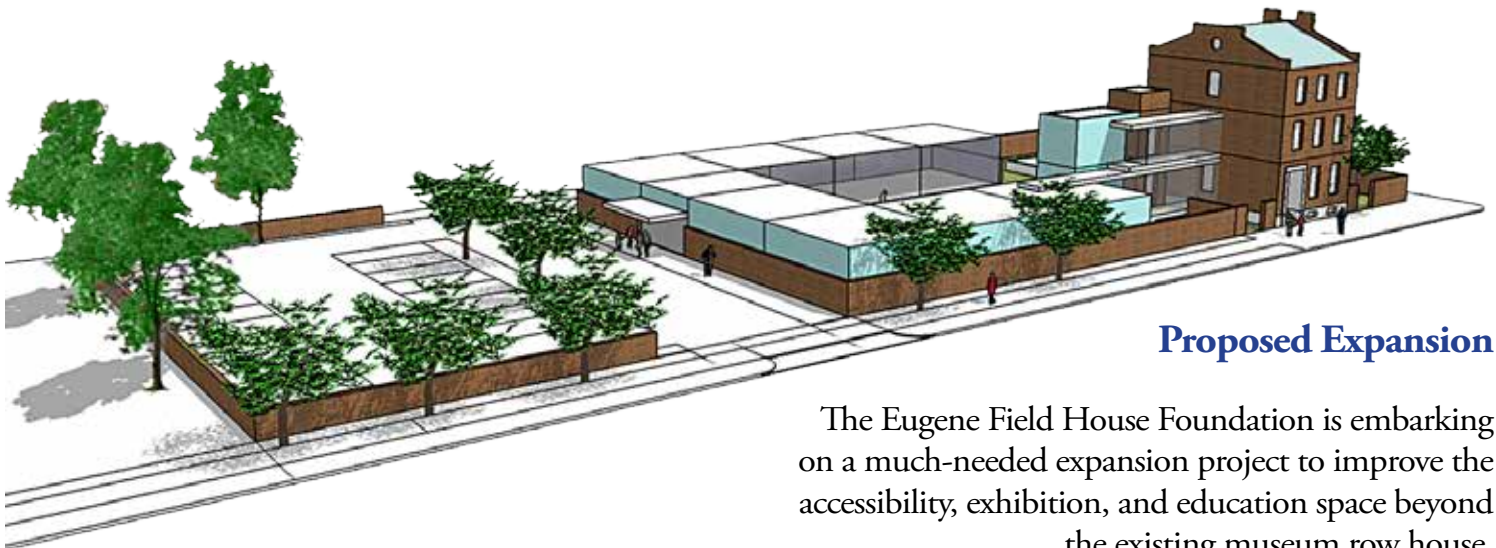
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Proposed Expansion

The Eugene Field House Foundation is embarking on a much-needed expansion project to improve the accessibility, exhibition, and education space beyond the existing museum row house.