

Campbell House Courier

Campbell House Museum Newsletter

Winter 2006

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Museum and **Museum Store Hours**

Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

CAMPBELL

House Museum

SAINT : LOUIS

1508 Locust Street St. Louis, MO 63103 314-421-0325

www. campbellhousemuseum

City Living Since 1851

Campbell Theater Performance a Hit

On Saturday, November 26 the Museum hosted the ETC. Senior Theatre Company's performance of *The Campbells of St. Louis* for 9 sold-out performances.

A living history performance and tour, *The Campbells of St. Louis* portrayed life at the Campbell house from 1858 to the 1930s through a series of 10 short scenes. As visitors went room-by-room through the house, they encountered actors playing members of the Campbell family and their servants. The company created the piece after studying family letters and other old documents. Each performance lasted about 50 minutes.

The Campbells of St. Louis was conceived and directed by Dolores Kane, ETC. Senior Theatre Company's founder. Kane started the company after her retirement as the drama and journalism instructor at University City High School, where she

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Members of the Royal Lancers dance company perform period dances in the Campbell parlor as part of the performance of The Campbells of St. Louis on November 26.

Campbell House Foundation

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President's Message

Jan Broderick

President, Campbell House Foundation

2006 is barely here and already the calendar at Campbell House is getting full. We are expanding our educational outreach through a course collaboration with Washington University (see story on page 4). I believe that this year the Museum will truly have evolved into an important western and St. Louis historical institution.

The newest members of the Foundation's Board of Directors (see story below) are adding more momentum to our programs. I'm also pleased to welcome as an ex officio Board member the President of the City of St. Louis Board of Alderman **James Shrewsbury**, establishing an important link with City Hall.

I'm gratified each time the Board meets and I realize that everyone attending speaks up and offers suggestions, critiques and insight. I urge all of our members to feel free to contact me or John or Andy with any suggestions or questions about the Campbell House Museum.

Clark Honored with Presidents Award



Jan Broderick presents Sam Clark with the 2005 Presidents Award.

Sam B. Clark was given the 2005 Campbell House Museum President's Award on November 3.

Sam has been a friend of the Museum since the 1970s and a member of the Board of Directors since 2002.

Sam has made crucial contributions of resources and time as a member of the Collections Committee, which oversaw the Museum's interior restoration. His interest in the Campbell House goes back to his

childhood when he saw some of the Campbell family furnishings in the window of Stix, Baer and Fuller department store during the campaign to establish the Museum.

The President's Award is given annually by the Foundation's officers to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to the preservation of the Campbell House Museum and its mission. This year's award presentation was made at the annual 1851 Society dinner, which was held for the first time at the Piper Palm House in Tower Grove Park.

New Board Members

In 2005, the Campbell House Museum Board of Directors was pleased to welcome three new members to its ranks—**Eileen Carr** is in charge of publications for the St. Louis Herb Society, **Tim Rohan** is the proprietor the interior design firm T. Rohan Interiors, and **Carroll Stribling** is Of Counsel with the Clayton law firm Husch and Eppenberger.

Unique Mirror Conserved

Museum member and master carpenter **Don Dill** recently completed conservation work on one of the Museum's more unusual objects, an adjustable double mirror made to be used at a washstand.

The mirror's design was patented in 1868 by Samuel Scottron. Scottron was a prominent African-American inventor from Brooklyn, New York who began his career as a barber and would eventually be granted four U.S. patents.

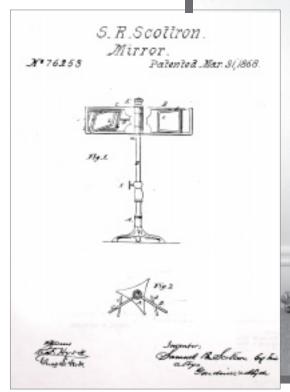
Scottron's mirror was unique because it was designed so users could "see themselves as others see them." In other words, the mirror could be adjusted so your reflection was reflected,

thereby reversing the mirrored image.

In the model the Campbell's owned, a pair of fancy cast iron arms and a high stand support a pair of walnut oval-shaped mirror frames that swivel in all directions. However, one of the wood frames and mirrors had been missing since the 1960s.

The Campbells purchased the mirror sometime before 1885 because it is visible in the Campbell family photo album taken of the house that year. At that time the mirror stood in a third floor spare bedroom that also doubled as the library. The mirror remains in the same room to this day.

The mirror was purchased for the Museum at the 1941 Campbell estate auction for \$5.50.



Scottron's 1868 U.S. Patent for an "Improved Mirror."

Over the next few years, conservation and restoration of the Museum's collection of original objects and artifacts will be a priority. Planned projects include returning the 19th century pier mirror to the entry hall (which has been in storage for the last 60 years) and reproducing upholstery and draperies for the parlor.



Mirror (circled) as it appeared in the Campbell House album, about 1885.

Winter 2006

Dining Room: Picture-Perfect for the Holiday Season

Beginning in October, the Campbell House dining table was lavishly set for the holiday season in what is planned to become an annual tradition at the Museum.

In November, the dining room was featured in *Sauce*, a local dining and entertainment magazine. The story by foodie **Suzanne Corbett** looked at the origins of Thanksgiving holiday traditions, which are "entrenched in the height of Victorian style."

Thank you to **Sam Clark** for his indispensable help in preparing this year's holiday decorations.







Welcome New Museum Members

The Museum is pleased to welcome the following new members for the months of June to November 2005:

Dave and Marla Bouchein
Ollie Curry
Bonnie Gibbs
Trish and Jim Gormley
Betsy O'Herin
Virginia Newton Jacobi
David Lehleitner
Dan Rankin
Nancy Reynolds and Dwyer Brown
Mr. and Mrs. William Schneck
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Swank

John Steinfeld Remembered

John Steinfeld, friend of the Campbell House Museum, died on December 17, 2005.

John had a generous spirit and was a benefactor of many St. Louis institutions. He was a graduate of Washington University and retired after a 45year career at Anheuser-Busch. John also belonged to the American Legion.

A funeral mass was celebrated at Incarnate Word Academy on December 22.

John is survived by his wife, Audrey, three sons and grandchildren.

Washington U. Course at Museum

Washington University students will be focusing on Campbell House this spring in a course called *The Campbell House as a Case Study in American Material Culture*

The course is intended to illuminate material objects and their cultural meanings and will "experiment with different disciplinary approaches to material culture, including those offered by history, art history, literary studies, and social science."

Heidi Kolk of the English department and the head of writing 1 is the instructor.

Theater

Continued from page 1

taught for more than 20 years. The company is affiliated with St. Louis Community College at Forest Park.

Thanks largely to a preview of the performances in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and on radio station KFUO FM, more than 100 people attended the sellout event.

ETC. Senior Theatre is preparing a new Campbell family script tentatively scheduled to be performed at the Museum this June.



Dennis Roach plays Hugh Campbell in the 1895 library scene of The Campbells of St. Louis. In the scene Hugh explains some of the eccentricities of the household.



Set in the Carriage House about 1905, a new servant played by Mike Norton (left) is lectured on his duties by the coachman, played by John LaGrone (right).

Excerpt from The Campbells of St. Louis



SCENE FOUR

Set in the Campbell dining room on the afternoon of October 9, 1874. The Campbell's housekeeper and her new apprentice maid are preparing the dining room table for the evening's party, which President Ulysses Grant and General William Sherman will attend. While the young maid is quite excited about the upcoming evening, the housekeeper tells of an even more gala affair the previous year.

Housekeeper: We were two weeks preparing for it, the most elegant affair in Lucas Place, which is to say Missouri. You should have seen it. Twenty courses it was—twenty. There was soup, fish, beef a la mode with mushrooms, spring chicken, snipe, sweet breads and peas, not to mention the fruit, cheeses and desserts. Four kinds of wine! The dinner alone must have cost over \$1,000. Cook was so busy preparing for it, she didn't give a whit for our meals. As though we had time for them, not with all the polishing and rug beating and window washing. It's not everyday a President comes to visit. And it's not everyday Mrs. Campbell had an opportunity to...well, I'll mind my tongue.

Maid: An opportunity to what?

Housekeeper: And who should be on the guest list? Why, only President and Mrs. Grant, General Sherman, perhaps the most handsome officer I have ever seen, Mr. Henry Blow, Mr. Henry Shaw, Col. Thomas Gant, Mr. James Eads and (She begins to laugh.) Whoo, hoa...

Maid: Who?

Housekeeper: Oh, just the Blackfeet Indians.

Maid: Stop the lights!

Housekeeper: Nooh, earlier that day they came right up to the door in full regalia, feathered head-dresses and painted faces. They'd come to pay their respects to Mr. Campbell. He was an honored member of their tribes he was. Well, Mrs. Campbell lets them in as pretty as ya please. If Mr. Campbell would have welcomed them, then Mrs. Campbell would have bent over backwards. They took to squatten in a circle on the floor right there in the parlor, drinking fire water - from the silver punch bowl yet...

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Calendar of Events

Campbell House Museum • Tower Grove Park The Victorian Society • Lafayette Park Conservancy

FEBRUARY 7

Tower Grove Park - St. Louis Symphony Chamber **Concert Series**

Tower Grove Park, Piper Palm House 7:00 p.m., FREE (Doors opens at 6 p.m., Space is limited and seating is on a first come, first serve basis.)

MARCH 18

Annual St. Louis Museum Store Association Garage Sale St. Louis Zoo, Living World Building

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call 421-0325 for more details.

APRIL 4

Tower Grove Park - St. Louis Symphony Chamber **Concert Series**

Tower Grove Park, Piper Palm House 7:00 p.m., FREE (Doors opens at 6 p.m., Space is limited and seating is on a first come, first serve basis.)

JUNE 10

Campbell House Museum—Spring Members Party 3 to 7 p.m. at the Museum FREE, please call 421-0325 for reservations.

Museum Volunteers



Docents Ms. Laura Watt Mrs. Shirley Berg Mr. Matthew Wyrick Dr. Nick Colosi

Ms. Karen Davis Museum Store Mrs. Mary Chapman Mr. Justin Davis Mrs. Dianne Colosi Mrs. Pat Deffry Ms. Ann Delaney Ms. Teresa Johnson Mrs. Jane Gleason Mrs. Rose Laux Mrs. Esther Guebert Mrs. Pat Lehmann Mr. Harry Hall Mrs. Jeanne Lindburg Ms. Ann Harris Mrs. Adele McDavid Mr. Bill Julius Mrs. Margaret Mackle Mr. Tom Keav Mr. Joe O'Connell Mrs. Dorthy Lesch Mrs. Mary Potter Mrs. Carolyn McCosh Miss Betty-Mae Ms. Herta Milhous Stienhans

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Annual St. Louis Museum Store Association Garage Sale Living World Building at the St. Louis Zoo

> Saturday, March 18, 2006 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call 421-0325 for more information



TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

In Honor of Mr. Sam B. Clark **Richard Cummings**

In Honor of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Hopson

Pat and Roman Beuc Joan and Jim Bowers Ann and Bob Brewer Marianne Croghan

Pat and Bill Daily

Don and Maria Herbster

Lenore Matthes

Mickey and John Schreiner

Nancy Thomas

In Memory of Dr. Francis J. Burns

Mrs. Mary Baker James Mrs. Jeanne M. Lindburg

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Mr. Richard P. Nangle

Mrs. Lynell Mueller

Mrs. Kay O'Connell

Mrs. Kim Scherrer

Ms. Kathy Sullivan

Mrs. Shirley Thorn

Mrs. Sally Tofle

Rev. Bill Mugan, S.J.

Mrs. Helen Pogorzelski

Ms. Barbara Stadtmiller

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Piper

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Horgan Mr. and Mrs. Mark M. Wenner

Roland Quest Memorial Fund of the Saint Louis

Community Foundation

Kitchen Addition

A life-size photographic reproduction of a 19th century cooking range (right) has been installed in the Campbell House kitchen.

This photo reproduction is intended to give Museum visitors a better idea of how the kitchen functioned in the last quarter of the 19th century. The large cast-iron range in the photo is very similar to the type of range used by the Campbell's cook during the 1880s—when she would have been preparing as many as 60 meals each day.

The range in the photo is in the William Farnsworth Homestead which is part of the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland, Maine.

Do you know where the Museum can find a range like this for the Campbell kitchen?

Winter Hours Added

During the months of January and February 2006, the Museum will keep its regular hours —Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Appointments are no longer necessary to visit the Museum during these months.

Museum attendance for 2005 is up over 200 percent for the same time last year, as St. Louisans and tourists alike have rediscovered the restored Campbell House.



Help Support YOUR Museum

I would like to support the Campbell House Museum. Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of : \square \$1,000 \square \$500 \square \$100

□ \$50 □ \$25 □ \$___

Name _____

Address

City _____ State ___ Zip ____
Telephone

- ☐ My employer has a matching gift program_____
- ☐ I would like more information about making gifts of stock or about making a lasting gift through my estate planning
- $\hfill \square$ Contact me about volunteer opportunities

Please send to the Campbell House Museum, 1508 Locust St., St. Louis, MO 63103

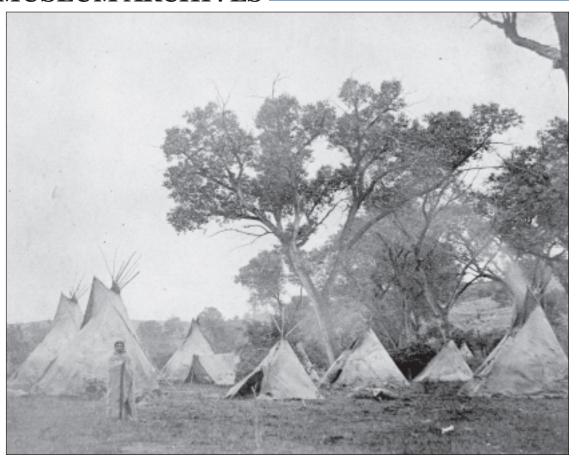
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FROM THE MUSEUM ARCHIVES

Arapaho Camp 1869-1870 Photograph by William S. Soule

This photograph of an Arapaho camp was taken about 1869 in present day northwest Oklahoma by William Soule's, whose photographs are among the earliest systematic photographic records of Native Americans.

The photo is one of 22 images of Indian subjects from the Campbell family albums. The eclectic album from which this photo is taken also includes portraits of the Danish royal family, Greek actors and Spanish palaces.







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