



Campbell House Courier

Newsletter of the Campbell House Museum

Winter 2008

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Museum and Museum Store Hours

Wednesday – Saturday,
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday,
12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

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

www.
campbellmuseum
.org



CAMPBELL
House Museum

SAINT † LOUIS

City Living Since 1851

Artifacts and Memoir Donated

Imagine growing up in St. Louis during the first decades of the 20th century. Imagine visiting the Campbell House and being a guest at parties given by Mr. Hugh Campbell. Imagine the memories that might have been made. Rita Heller Willey didn't have to imagine it—she lived it.

In 2007, the museum received a letter from the daughter of Mrs. Willey which contained a memoir of her visits to Campbell House and her friendship with Hugh Campbell and Mary Boerste, the Campbell's last housekeeper.

Memories of Campbell House by Rita Willey
Summer of 1904, St. Louis World's Fair—
Two young ladies came to see the Fair. Rose Heller and Mary Boerste of Tell City, Indiana, a small picturesque town on the Ohio River. Mary answered an ad in the newspaper for an "upstairs maid". Rose went back to Tell City, later was married. Rose was my father's sister.

Mary was a good friend. On Fridays, her day off, she would visit friends: my father, mother, myself and my younger brother Ferd. On a visit to Campbell house when I was a child and it was around Christmas, we were told to take an ornament from the tree. This was the custom; all children who came could take



Favors from a St. Patrick's Day party hosted by Hugh Campbell in 1922. The figures are dancing on boxes that originally contained little green candy snakes.

Continued on Page 5

Hahn Named Executive Director

Andrew Hahn ("Andy") has been named the executive director of the Campbell House Museum.

Hahn served as the Museum's assistant director since 2003. In that capacity he assisted in the planning and completion of the restoration of the Museum's historic buildings. At the conclusion of the restoration Hahn directed the reinstallation and reinterpretation of the Museum's massive collection of original furnishings. In 2006 he managed a major research initiative into the Campbell family records in the St. Louis City Circuit Court which yielded many new facets to the Campbell story.



In addition to overseeing the daily operations and administration of the Museum, Hahn will devote much of his time to assisting in fund raising efforts, coordinating volunteers and overseeing educational outreach and programs.

Campbell House Foundation

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Newsletter

Betty-Mae Stienhans Receives President's Award

Miss Betty-Mae Stienhans

received the 2007 Campbell House Museum President's Award at the annual 1851 Society dinner on November 12, 2007. She was recognized for her many gifts of time and resources to the House.

Betty-Mae became a volunteer a number of years ago when **Marvin Mueller**, a longtime volunteer and board member, invited her to help out at the Museum. She soon became a regular volunteer in the Museum Store under the tutelage of **Jeanne Lindburg**. In 2000, Jeanne said of Betty-Mae, "It seems like Campbell House has just become a part of her."

Betty-Mae wanted to do more than volunteer her time. When she became aware of the campaign to restore Campbell House completed in 2005, she contributed generously. In 2006 she gave a lead gift for the restoration of the hallway Pier mirror and for the reproduction period frame for the copy of the Bingham painting (see back page).

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. Betty-Mae was extremely surprised to be the recipient of this Award. In her modesty, she declared, "So many people have done so much more." Obviously, the Foundation's Board did not entirely agree with her assessment.

The 2007 award presentation was made at the annual 1851 Society dinner, hosted by Zoe and Max Lippman at the Deer Creek Club.

Board of Directors Update

The Campbell House Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to welcome **Mr. Terence M. Baer** to its ranks. Mr. Baer is no stranger to Campbell House. His family was instrumental in saving the building from demolition in 1942. In September of that year the department store Stix, Baer and Fuller or "Grand Leader" donated \$10,000 towards the purchase of the property from the Campbell estate, which allowed the Museum to open a few months later. Mr. Baer brings his family's tradition of enthusiasm for the Museum and its mission of education and preservation. He also brings expertise as a senior vice president at Blacktie-St. Louis (www.blacktie-stlouis.com).

The members of the Board of the Campbell House Foundation serve three-year terms and are eligible for reappointment. They donate countless hours, hard work and substantial resources in support of the Museum.



(top) Betty-Mae Stienhans accepts the 2007 President's award from Jan Broderick. (bottom) The Deer Creek Club.



President's Message

Jan Broderick
President
Campbell House Foundation

The holiday charms of Campbell House have worked their magic. Thanks to **Sam Clark**, again, who was in charge of decorating the parlor and dining room with his

special panache. Our visitation for December was up about 20 percent from last year, which was also reflected in robust sales in the Museum Store.

As we move into spring, our efforts will be focused on increasing our public programming and collections research. The ongoing projects we have with the University of Missouri-St. Louis history department and the department of American Culture Studies at Washington University should provide substantive new information about the history of the Campbell family and their collection.

I'm impressed every time I have the opportunity to speak to one of our volunteers or interns working at the house. They bring such enthusiasm to their participation in the mission of the Campbell House.

I hope to greet all our members and friends at the annual Spring Members Party on May 31 (see calendar on page 6). Spring is always a great time to visit the house and find out about our latest discoveries.

The old is always new at the Campbell House!

Museum, Restoration Featured in National and Local Publications

In 2007, Campbell House was featured in two publications—one national and one local. *Old-House Interiors* and St. Louis Magazine's *At Home* described the recently completed \$3 million restoration of the house.

The *Old-House Interiors* article ("The Campbell House: A Bright Victorian Jewel in America's Gateway to the West"), in addition to discussing the restoration, also gave a glimpse into the life of the Campbell family. Illustrated with new photographs by noted architectural photographer, Alise O'Brien, they captured the opulence of the interior of the house.

In "Campbell's Scoop: The Grandeur of Victorian-Era St. Louis" (St. Louis Magazine's *At Home*) Gladys Montgomery described how the restoration of Campbell House Museum used leading-edge technologies. These technologies enabled the restorers to analyze the original paint colors, wall stenciling, wallpapers, and the colors of the carpets and to recreate new materials in the correct colors of the period.

Publicity in both the national and local venues gave Campbell House well-earned accolades for the restoration. Both articles can be read on the Museum's website at www.campbellhousemuseum.org.

Etc. Theatre Productions



ETC Senior Theatre Company—the official Campbell House theater company—presented two new productions at the Museum during 2007.

"The Oregon Trail" was performed on September 29. The performance featured six short dramatic pieces based in part on Francis Parkman's book *The Oregon Trail* and a 1867 reunion between Robert Campbell and Western guide, Henri Chatillon.

On the weekend of December 8, six performances of an adaptation of Charles Dickens', *A Christmas Carol* were presented—giving audience members an opportunity to enjoy the classic story against the backdrop of the Museum's lavish Victorian holiday decorations.

Both productions were made possible by a grant from the **Missouri Humanities Council**.



Historical Plaque Dedicated

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) have dedicated a plaque marking Campbell House as a NSDAR recognized historic site. The Museum's plaque nomination was sponsored by the Webster Groves Chapter, NSDAR. (Chapter members at the dedication ceremony in the garden pictured below)



New Weekend Manager

Please welcome **Paula Lincoln** who joined the CHM staff as weekend manager. She is in residence in the carriage house apartment as the Museum's on-site staff person and weekend manager.

Paula comes to us with a background in the fine arts. She has MFA in sculpture from Syracuse University and regularly exhibits in local galleries. Be sure to greet Paula the next time you visit the museum on a weekend.

Campbell Descendant Visits

Mr. Patrick Campbell MacCulloch of Toronto, Canada recently visited Campbell House. Mr. MacCulloch is descended from Andrew Campbell, Robert Campbell's older brother who stayed in Ireland.



Mr. MacCulloch was not aware of his famous American uncle Robert Campbell until about 15 years ago. He has documented the discovery of his family history in a book, *The Campbell Quest*:

The saga of the Campbell Fortune, which is set to be published by 2009. The photo above was taken during his recent research trip to St. Louis.

Historic House Spring Tour and Ticket Deal

Spring Tour: This Mother's Day weekend, treat mom or yourself by visiting the unique historic sites of downtown St. Louis—Campbell House, Chatillon-DeMenil Mansion, Eugene Field House, Scott Joplin House and The Old Courthouse.

Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 11, 12 to 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 (\$5 children under 11) and include admission and tours at all five sites, Victorian children's games at the Eugene Field House and concerts at The Old Courthouse.

Special tickets available for a Victorian tea demonstration and sampling at Campbell House, including light refreshments and demonstrators in period costume (Saturday, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; \$15 special ticket). There will also be Sunday brunch at Café DeMenil. Please call 314-421-0325 for tickets or more information.

Combined Ticket: This spring Campbell House, Chatillon-DeMenil Mansion and the Eugene Field House will offer a combined ticket. Now buy a combined \$8 ticket for admission and tours at two sites or \$12 ticket for admission and tours at all three sites. Buy your combined ticket at any of the sites.

Welcome New Members

Welcome to the following new Museum members:

Mr. Terence M. Baer
Mrs. William Barnes III
Alan E. Brainerd
Margaret Brandt
Mrs. John Broadhead, Jr.
Dr. Allan C. Campbell
William P. Clarke
Mrs. George K. Conant
John Dunham
Pat and Glenn Eckert
Mr. and Mrs.
William S. Ford
Mr. and Mrs.
A. William Hager
Matthew Hathaway
Mr. and Mrs.
James H. Howe III
Mr. William Hyland
Jen and Gary Jensen
Mr. and Mrs.
Newell S. Knight, Jr.

Cheryl Kowalczyk
Mrs. John S.
Lionberger, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Lansden
McCandless, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H.
McRoberts, Jr.
Mrs. Eleanor J. Moore
Laura Murra
Judith L. Nesbit
Dr. William Nester
Mr. and Mrs.
Raymond W. Peters II
Rick and Mary Lou Ponder
Mrs. T. Randolph Potter
Rosemary Rosenthal
Mr. and Mrs.
Harry Saunders
Mr. and Mrs.
J. Joseph Schlafly III
Mrs. Theodore M.
Simmons
Mr. Richard T. Stith, Jr.
Alicia Walker



(top) DeMenil Mansion
(bottom) Eugene Field House

Memoir

Continued from page 1
one. I still have the little celluloid doll.

All holidays were observed with candies and table favors. I have some St. Patrick's Day figurines. The candies were green snakes, etc.

On Christmas Day 1922 Mary invited me to the party given by Mr. Hugh Campbell for his employees (Mary the housekeeper, Martha the cook, and Gus, his secretary) and their relatives and friends. I was 13 at the time, the youngest guest and Mary thought I was a young lady who would appreciate all the finery and food which was catered (she was right). There were paper hats for everyone. Mr. Campbell played the square piano made of rosewood. Later there were musicians and dancing. My father had taken me there on the streetcar and came to get me when it was over; they invited him in for a glass of wine. The guests were given a large brown-paper-wrapped box to take home. It contained a Christmas wreath, a 5-pound tin of Busy Bee candy and, taped to the outside, was an envelope containing \$5 for taxi fare.

*Eventually Martha got married and Mary sent for her niece Minnie Kleeman of Tell City to do the cooking. I had become good friends with the Kleeman sisters and we entertained her at our house and she invited us to visit and play cards in the servant's dining room which was in the back of the kitchen and over the carriage house. **Rita Heller Willey (1908-2002)***

In our reply, along with expressing our gratitude, we asked if she had any photographs of the staff, or of her mother. And were the ornaments and table favors that



Mary Boerste (above) served in Campbell House from 1904 until her death in 1932. This photograph was taken in the servant's hall located in a separate building behind the kitchen. It was demolished in 1967. This is the only extant photograph of the interior of the hall.



This celluloid Christmas ornament was given to Mrs. Willey as a child when she visited Hugh Campbell. It is the only Christmas ornament in the collection which belonged to the Campbells. The nickel-plated shoe contains a dark green velvet pincushion and was given to Rita by Hugh for Christmas in 1922.

Mrs. Willey had kept available to be photographed? When Mrs. Willey's daughter replied, she said that she had recently discovered photographs of the housekeeper Mary Boerste taken in the servant's quarters. She also sent a package containing the Irish figurines that were favors at a St. Patrick's Day party. Mrs. Willey's son and daughter-in-law later presented the Christmas ornament and pincushion also given to her by Hugh Campbell.

The Christmas ornament was especially welcome because none of Campbell's seasonal decorations are in the collection. They had been lost – or, as we now know, some were given to the Campbell's guests.

The photographs we received from Mrs. Willey's daughter are our first glimpse of the interior of the servant's quarters, located to the rear of the kitchen. Rita Heller Willey's memoir, the photographs, and the figurines will be integrated into an enhanced display about the Campbell's servants. These artifacts have substantially enriched our understanding of the relationship of Hugh Campbell to his friends and servants.

(right)
Memoir author
Rita Heller Willey
at age 14,
circa 1922.



(left)
Campbell servant
Minnie Kleeman,
circa 1930.

Volunteers Remembered

Campbell House is truly saddened by the deaths of three longtime volunteers—Vad Black, Shirley Berg and Helen Pogorzelski.

Evadna (“Vad”) Black (1908-2007) began her career as a Museum volunteer in 1975. She helped out in many areas—cleaning, washing and ironing table linens, modeling period costumes and of course as a docent. She said that her sense of history made it imperative that she encourage the historic preservation of museums like Campbell House.



Shirley Berg (1922-2008) was recruited by her friend Esther Aschemeyer as a Campbell House docent in the 1970s. Even after she retired as a weekly docent she continued to be interested in the Museum. As recently as this past holiday season she was shopping in the Museum Store.

Helen Pogorzelski (1924-2007) was a retired St. Louis City school math teacher. She was a dedicated regular docent for more than 15 years, volunteering once a month until last April.



Warm memories of these devoted volunteers, who shared their time and enthusiasm for the benefit of the Museum and its visitors, will remain with us forever.

• Calendar of Events •

MARCH 29

Annual St. Louis Museum Store Association Garage Sale—featuring the Campbell House Museum Store
St. Louis Zoo, Living World Building
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call 421-0325 for more details.

APRIL 6

Friends of Tower Grove Park Lecture Series
“Music and Society in the Era of Henry Shaw”, by the UMSL string quartet in residence
Tower Grove Park, Stupp Center
3 p.m., FREE, please call 771-4424 for information

APRIL 8

Tower Grove Park - St. Louis Symphony Chamber Concert Series—“Transfigured Night, Music for Strings”
Tower Grove Park, Piper Palm House
7:00 p.m., FREE (Doors open at 6:30 p.m., space limited)

MAY 10 & 11

Downtown Historic Sites Spring Open House and Garden Tour featuring Campbell House (see page 4 for more information)

May 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; May 11, 12 to 4 p.m.
\$15, please call 314-771-5828 for tickets.

MAY 31

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

JUNE 7 & 8

Lafayette Square House and Garden Tour
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., \$15 (in advance), \$18 (day of tour),
please call 314-772-5724 for tickets.

Museum Volunteers

Docents

Ms. Sharon Burgeois
Mr. Justin Davis
Ms. Ann Delaney
Mr. Marty Ely
Mrs. Jane Gleason
Ms. Ann Harris
Mr. Bill Julius
Mr. Tom Keay
Ms. Carolyn McCosh
Ms. Herta Milhous
Mrs. Karen Morgan
Mrs. Maureen Morris
Mrs. Lynell Mueller
Mrs. Kay O’Connell
Ms. Barbara Stadtmiller
Ms. Kathy Sullivan
Mrs. Sally Tofle
Ms. Laura Watt

Museum Store

Mrs. Mary Chapman
Mrs. Pat Deffry
Ms. Teresa Johnson
Mrs. Rose Laux
Mrs. Pat Lehmann
Mrs. Jeanne Lindburg
Mrs. Adele McDavid
Mr. Joe O’Connell
Mrs. Mary Potter
Mrs. Mary Jo Thornburgh
Ms. Laura Watt

Garden

Mr. Connie Alwood
Mr. and Mrs. Leo Krobath
Mr. Dan Litsch
Mrs. Mary Rich
Mrs. Margaret Saak

Tributes & Memorials

In Honor of

Mr. Sam B. Clark
Rita & Noel Moss

In Memory of

Mr. Kenneth A. Baker
Mr. Richard P. Nangle

In Memory of

Mrs. Shirley Berg
Ronald & Sue Crasilneck
Mrs. Jeanne M. Lindburg
Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. O’Connell

In Memory of

Mrs. Vad Black
John and Sue Dewald
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Mueller
Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. O’Connell

In Memory of

Delphine Gatch
Mr. and Mrs. L. Max Lippman, Jr.

In Memory of

Eddie Held
Mr. & Mrs. L. Max Lippman, Jr.

In Memory of

Mr. Rodger M. Miller
Mr. Richard P. Nangle

In Memory of

Mrs. Helen Pogorzelski
Andrew Hahn
Mrs. Jeanne M. Lindburg

In Memory of

Mr. William F. Trent
Mr. Richard P. Nangle

Mirror Restoration Complete

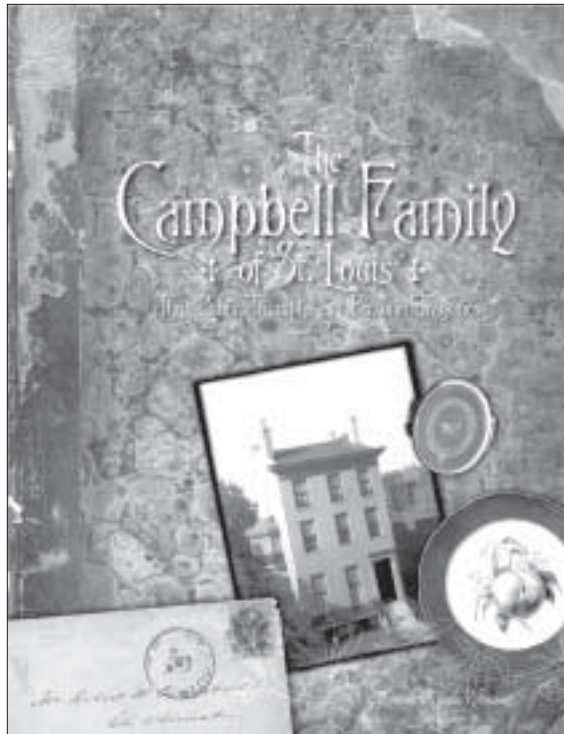
The generosity of the Museum's members and friends is reflected in the return to the entry hall of the magnificent pier mirror.

The mirror had not been displayed in the hall since the Campbells lived in the house because of its extremely fragile condition. The nine-foot tall mirror laid in pieces in storage at the Missouri Historical Society. The half-inch thick mercury glass was especially delicate. Simply moving the mirror from storage to the conservator was a serious undertaking. Restoration work was completed by **Jente Woodworking** of St. Louis and for the first time in more than 70 years the Campbell's mirror now stands as the focal point of the entry hall along with the George Caleb Bingham painting reproduction (see "From the Archives" feature on the next page). *Bravo to the donors listed below!*

Mr. Sam B. Clark*	Mr. and Mrs. Tim Rohan
Mrs. Augusta T. Feehan	Mr. John H. Russell*
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Gleason*	Audrey Steinfeld*
Ms. Julie Greenspoon-Kelly	Miss Betty-Mae Stienhans*
Dr. Slayden H. Harris*	Ms. Kathryn M. Sullivan
Mrs. Warren G. Keinath, Jr.*	Mr. and Mrs. Jack B. Swanson
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Leer	Mrs. W. Todd Terry, Jr.
Mrs. Earl C. Lindburg	Mr. and Mrs. Mark Wenner
Mrs. James Myles	Mr. and Mrs. George K. Vogt
Mr. Richard P. Nangle	
The Questers-Ferris Wheel Chapter	* Leading donors to the project



(above) The restored pier mirror in the entry hall.



Support Campbell Souvenir Booklet

To help commemorate the Museum's 65th anniversary in 2008, a Campbell House Museum souvenir booklet—*The Campbell Family of St. Louis, Their Public Triumphs and Personal Tragedies*—is in preparation. (cover at left)

The full-color, 30-page booklet, written by local guide and historian **Maureen O'Connor Kavanaugh**, will be lavishly illustrated and tell the Campbell House story in a way that has never been done before and in a format that can be purchased and taken home by Museum visitors.

From the introduction: *Only 114 years had passed from the time Robert Campbell arrived in St. Louis at the age of 20 to the death of the last of his and Virginia Jane Kyle's 13 children. Yet perhaps no family better exemplifies the 19th century American Dream and the tragedies which resulted from Westward Expansion, the Industrial Revolution, and newly made wealth than the Campbells of St. Louis...*

I would like to support the production of *The Campbell Family of St. Louis*. Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of:

\$500 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$_____

My employer has a matching gift program _____

Please enclose matching gift form from your corporation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Please send to the: **Campbell House Museum** • 1508 Locust Street • St. Louis, MO 63103

FROM THE MUSEUM ARCHIVES

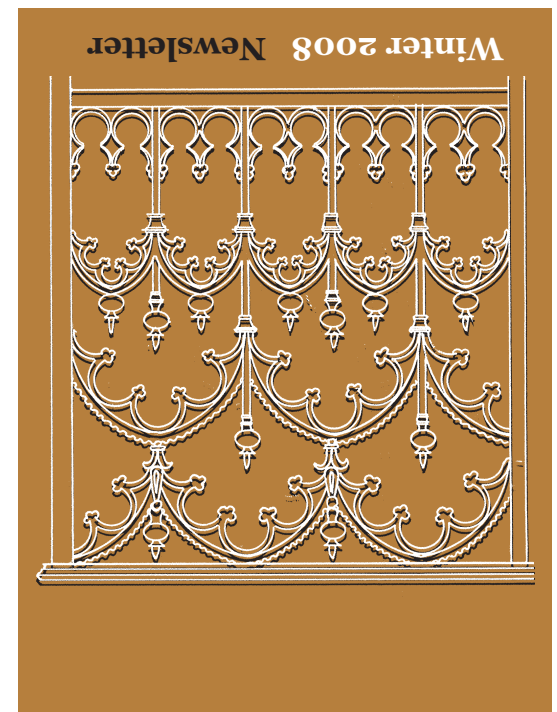
Gracing the front hall of Campbell House is a reproduction of the landscape painting by Missouri artist George Caleb Bingham that originally hung there. The painting is of a Romantic mountain landscape, typical of the mid-19th century.

Bingham is best known as a portraitist, and it is in this capacity that he met Robert Campbell. In 1855 Campbell was a member of a committee appointed by the Missouri State Senate to commission Bingham to paint portraits of Washington and Jefferson to be placed in the senate chamber in Jefferson City.

We may surmise that at this time Campbell also acquired this landscape which was painted in the early 1850s.

In 1941, at the Campbell estate auction, the painting was bought by Mr. and Mrs. William Hughes for \$65. Unfortunately the committee purchasing objects for the future Campbell House Museum did not have the funds to purchase the painting. The Hughes, in turn, donated it to The Newark Museum in 1959. We thank the Newark Museum for making this copy possible.

The period-style frame for the Bingham reproduction was made possible by the generosity of **Miss Betty-Mae Stienhans**.



CAMPBELL HOUSE MUSEUM
1508 Locust Street
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