



# Gateway Gazette

## Follow history's footsteps with JEFF's PastCast

Teachers and students visiting Jefferson National Expansion Memorial can explore history in a new way this fall. The podcast tour, *JEFF's PastCast*, narrates historic sites from St. Louis' colonial period through the 1870s on the Gateway Arch Grounds.

Each *PastCast* recording leads visitors on a tour of the Gateway Arch Grounds as they appeared at different times throughout history.

The *Colonial St. Louis* tour visits sites where St. Louis founders, Pierre Laclede and Auguste Chouteau, lived and conducted business, as well as the Spanish Government House and the St. Louis Levee.

The tour, *After Lewis and Clark: 1804-1820*, focuses on issues of land and its distribution after the Louisiana Purchase. The tour visits the place where Pierre Chouteau carried on his family's legacy in the fur trade. It also visits the residence of General William Clark, where the explorer lived while serving as the first governor of Louisiana Territory and Agent of Indian Affairs.

The tour, *A Budding City: 1820s-1830s*, visits the print shop of abolitionist newspaper publisher, Elijah Lovejoy. It also visits one of the most celebrated remnants of the fur trade, Manual Lisa's Old Rock House, as well as the Levee, where tribute is paid to John Berry

Meachum's freedom school. *Westward Ho!: 1840s-1850s* focuses on a time of rapid growth for St. Louis. The tour visits the offices of Butterfield's Overland Mail, as well as the site of the first Dred Scott suit, the Papin Building. *JEFF's PastCast* is free and available for download to MP3 players from the park website, [www.nps.gov/jeff](http://www.nps.gov/jeff). To automatically receive the latest programs as they are updated, subscribe to the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial News Feed. Transcripts of each program are also available from the website.



## Outreach programs reach students

In October 2006, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial began delivering education outreach programs to St. Louis Public Schools. National Park Service Rangers visited fourth- and fifth-grade classrooms to talk about citizenship, civil rights and the judicial process. The culmination of each visit was a mock trial acted out by students.

The Education Department developed outreach program as a way to serve public-school students in the St. Louis region. Program content was designed to meet state curriculum guidelines for social studies and language arts.

Students reviewed the steps in a civil trial, acted out the roles of trial participants and read from scripts brought by the ranger. Written evaluations completed by each student at the end of the program showed lessons learned encompassed both technical and philosophical aspects of the trial process.

"I learned that you need convincing evidence to prove guilt," wrote one student; while another wrote, "I learned to try to stay out of court." Evaluations also reflected the character-building component of the program.

"Court is very serious and you have to tell the truth," summed-up

one fifth-grader.

Participating teachers appreciated the opportunity to receive programming in their classrooms.

"I felt the program shows civic responsibility, and each student has a role in the process," wrote Mrs. Rich-Lane, a fifth-grade teacher from Simmons-Marshall MEGA Magnet School in St. Louis. "This program engaged the students in reading, writing, listening and speaking. The children really enjoy the Park Ranger; he was really into the lesson... This program was excellent for teaching about the judicial system and a great exercise in public speaking."

## Education Notes

School days: a new year, a new class...

I recently was told something by a gentleman working on our *Dred Scott* on-line field trip. He said, "The great thing about working with fourth grade is that there is always a new crop every year."

How true.

When students return to school following a summer break, they move into new classrooms. This annual ritual fills students of varying emotions from dread to excitement, but always the newness of the situation demonstrates changes. The ebb and flow of the familiar and the encountered creates the diversity called life. The world does not stay stagnant. Neither do we at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

This past summer, we began "PastCast," an audio tour available through the computer. It featured five stops each week for five weeks around the grounds that are the Gateway Arch. The stops illuminated historical facts about why the Gateway Arch grounds are the memorial they are and why they are located here, these 90 acres in the heart of the city. Take a few moments to listen and understand why this place is a national park.

We invigorated our junior ranger program, creating new booklets and opportunities for children to direct their own learning in the Museum of Westward Expansion or the Historic Old Courthouse.

We hosted a teacher workshop with Ulysses S Grant National Historic Site, having many familiar faces in the crowd and welcoming new ones. We are having another workshop in early October, and exploring ways to make these more convenient for busy teacher schedules.

This past spring we celebrated the sesquicentennial of the Dred Scott Decision and students made so much possible. We began the on-line field trip about Dred Scott and continue to find avenues into the web world. We created a new traveling trunk told from the view of Michael Cerre, the court clerk in the original case. Plus, we had our student writing contest. The recognition of the students' work and the performance of the Carr-Lane Middle School students infused my day with heartwarming gratitude for all the great teachers that work with students and enlighten them to the offerings of this historically significant place.

I will treasure days like that as I begin my next school year in a new location. After eight school years, plus summers, I am challenging myself with a new grade and some advanced science classes at Ozark National Scenic Riverway. This transition in my life is like a kindergartener's first day, filled with excitement for all the "stuff" I am about to do, and like a high-school senior's last day, thanking people who have nurtured a life for many years.

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial is truly a place of wonder. Each one of you contributes to that by your encounters with this park. Keep it going and explore some other parks. I hope you can make it to my new one.

Continuing to learn,  
Elisa



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

The Jefferson National Expansion Memorial commemorates the people, places, and events involved in America's Westward Expansion during the nineteenth century. The Gateway Arch and Old Courthouse symbolize St. Louis' role as "The Gateway to the West" during the 1800s.

### Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

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### Phone

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### Website

[www.nps.gov/jeff](http://www.nps.gov/jeff)

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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# New exhibit reveals public and private lives of Ulysses and Julia Grant

A new exhibit at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site explores the public and private roles of president Grant and his wife, Julia, within the context of their times. The opening of the exhibit, *An Intricate Tapestry: The Lives of Ulysses and Julia Grant*, marks the completion of the interpretive aspects of the site.

“Famous people are often defined through their public lives, in both positive and negative ways,” states the introductory panel to the exhibit. “Yet these individuals, like all human beings, fulfill many private roles as well.”

The exhibit floor plan is arranged like a large wheel, with “spokes” radiating from a central hub. The hub illustrates the relationship between Julia and Ulysses, the central theme of the exhibit, and each spoke reveals how their lives were effected by

events of the nineteenth century.

In describing what she most likes about the exhibit, Park historian, Pam Sanfilippo, said, “Throughout the site, visitors of all ages are able to meet the Grants on a more personal and complex level rather than a one-dimensional individual from the past that is typically found in textbooks. Traditional perceptions are explored and challenged, and multiple perspectives are presented to allow visitors to form their own conclusions.”

Visitors to the museum can glimpse views of the Grants personal thoughts and conversations on a variety of subjects from private, family affairs to life in the public eye. Exhibit themes are illustrated with journal excerpts, correspondence, personal items, photographs and images.

Exhibit themes include: “The Ties That Bind,” family relationships ; “Home & Community,” White Haven in context of St. Louis ; “Neighbor, Traveler, Friend,” the Grants and their relationships with others, including their world tour ; “Dedicated Public Servant,” Grant’s military and political career ; “Life’s Many Crossroads,” Ulysses’ other careers and motivation toward politics; “Vision of Justice,” Grant’s views on justice and equality.

“I have been excited to hear thought-provoking questions and comments from visitors, which indicates that we have achieved our goal of providing a meaningful learning experience,” said Sanfilippo.



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## Teachers explore resources at teacher workshops

The Education Department at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (JEFF) holds two teacher workshops a year to give teachers an opportunity to experience education resources connected to the park and its themes. Each one-day workshop, offered in summer and fall, presents a number of curriculum-based activities, programs and materials related to a specific theme, such as Plains Indian life, the Lewis and Clark Expedition or the Dred Scott Decision.

This summer, JEFF partnered with Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site to focus on resources related to African-American freedom and slavery in antebellum St. Louis. Twenty teachers from twelve different schools and organizations representing kindergarten through adult-education participated in the workshop. Activities included an introduction to the site by Historian, Pam Sanfilippo, as well as activities using resources at the site, such as primary source

documents, the White Haven house, kitchen and outbuildings and the new interpretive museum. Participant comments

The Fall 2007 workshop will explore primary source documents exploring the variety of perspectives of people traveling west during the 1800s. The workshop will take place on Wednesday, October 10, 2007, at the Historic Old Courthouse. For more information, contact Education Specialist, Diane Weber, at (314) 655-1635.

## Programs and events at JEFF

For more information about programs and events at JEFF, call (314) 655-1600. All programs to take place at either the Historic Old Courthouse (HOC) or Museum of Westward Expansion (MWE). All programs are free to the public unless noted.

### September

17 Naturalization Ceremony (HOC)

### October

10 Teacher Workshop: Primarily Westward Expansion (HOC)

19 Oasis (MWE)

### November

23 & 24 Victorian Christmas concerts & tree lighting (HOC)

### December

2 Celebrate: Tiger Cub Family Workshop (reservation required)

27 Boy Scout Badge Workshop: *Law* (reservations required)

28 Girl Scout Badge Workshop: *American Patriotist* (reservations required)

30 Girl Scout Badge Workshop: *Heritage Hunt* (reservations required)

### January

28 Boy Scouts (reservations required)

### February

7, 8 & 9 Black History Celebration (HOC)

11 Scout Workshop (reservation required)

14, 15, 16, 25 & 26 Black History Celebration (HOC)

22, 23 & 26 Black History Celebration (HOC)

### March

7 & 8 151<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Dred Scott Decision (HOC)

## Workshops for Scouts

A series of special one-day workshops developed by Jefferson National Expansion Memorial helps Boy Scouts, Cadette Scouts and Senior Girl Scouts earn merit badges and credit toward special interest projects. National Park Service Rangers present the special activities and programs related to the themes of Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

and connected to requirements for merit badges and special interest project requirements.

Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts participating in the workshops can complete the requirements for the special interest projects Law and Order, American Patriotism, Museum Discovery and Heritage Hunt. Boy Scouts completing the workshops can

complete the badge requirements for Law, Railroading, American Heritage or Indian Lore. To learn more about Scout Workshops visit [www.nps.gov/jeff](http://www.nps.gov/jeff), or to make reservations, call Diane Weber at (314) 655-1635.

