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Preparations Underway for 2008 Annual Conference

Historic St. Joseph Gets Nod from Board of Control



Plans are already underway for the 2008 MCSS Annual Conference to be held in St. Joseph. "A town rich in history - famous for being the place where the Pony Express began and Jesse James met his demise - St. Joseph is an exciting city offering first-rate attractions, upscale shopping and fine dining," touts the St. Joe Convention and Visitors Bureau. The historic riverfront site was selected by the Board of Control as an attractive venture to reach out to the populations of out-state Missouri, while still maintaining

the regional rotation of conference sites.

While many outside of Northwest Missouri might be unfamiliar with St. Joseph, the historic town has notoriety rivaling the largest American metropolises. A short 40 minute drive north of Kansas City, St. Joseph sits along the rolling Missouri River and is most notably known for its role in the "wild west" of the late 1800s. For a more detailed look at what St. Joseph has to offer for MCSS members next spring, visit the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau website at www.stjomo.com.



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MESSAGE FROM THE MCSS PRESIDENT

Dear MCSS Members-

I hope this edition of the *Horizon* finds you enjoying the spring/summer like weather and having a productive end of the school season. I wanted to update you on several items:

Our next board meeting will be Saturday, June 16 from 10:00 a.m. until 12 noon in Columbia, MO at Mizzou, Townsend Hall. The remainder of our meetings will be on the following dates:

September 15, 2007

January 12, 2008

If you have agenda items you would like considered for discussion at our MCSS Board of Directors meetings please send them via e-mail to my attention at least one week before the meetings.

I will attend the NCSS Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. this summer along with another MCSS Board member July 25-28, 2007. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about NCSS policy, lobbying efforts and to meet with our House Rep to lobby on behalf of the Social Studies here in Missouri.

Bill Gerling, Social Studies consultant for DESE, gave a presentation at the St. Louis Area Social Studies Leadership meeting Friday, April 27 at the Cooperating School Districts office. He focused on the upcoming End of Course (EOC) tests for Secondary Schools that are in the pipeline at DESE. Bill has an article in this issue outlining important points with this new test and will provide board members with an overview and update at our June meeting.

Thank you to all who attended the 2007 MCSS

Annual Conference in St. Charles, Missouri and made it a success. We had a 25% return rate for our surveys that were sent via e-mail and returned electronically. The majority of responses were very favorable. Some people even enjoyed the cheerleaders being there on Saturday! We had several comments that "this was one of the best state conferences" they had attended! I know Michelle Kratofil and Corey Vorthmann are working hard on the 2008 MCSS Conference in St. Joseph, Missouri. Please offer your assistance when asked to help...many hands make light work.



Our MCSS Board of Directors will continue work this year focused on electronic registration, paying conference fees via the internet, hone our lobbying skills at the national, state and local levels in the interest of the social studies and provide our members with tangible benefits they can use in the classroom. For the most current information on *your* organization check us out on the web at www.msocialstudies.org.

Best wishes for a successful end of year in the Social Studies. Please contact me if I can do anything to assist you and your students.

Best wishes,

Ted Green

MCSS President

MCSS is an organization that strives to improve social studies education throughout the state.

MCSS believes that the study of civics, history, economics, and geography as well as other social studies disciplines will prepare our students to be responsible citizens in a democratic society.

This is our *commitment to the future.*

St. Joseph: *Where the Pony Express Began and Jesse James Ended*

by Robert Slater and Jackie Lewin



Just 150 years ago, Joseph Robidoux, a smart, personable fur trader from St. Louis, the booming city 250 miles east on the Mississippi, filed his plat for St. Joseph, the Missouri River city which he named after his patron saint. (Missouri became the 24th U.S. state in 1821.)

But the story of "Joetown" goes back considerably farther to the establishment of Robidoux' first trading post in 1826.

The first peoples to come into today's northwest Missouri moved from the Great Lakes area around 1300. They came as a result of tribal warfare in their original homeland and in search of new land. Later, the arrival and the expansion of the white populations in the east also caused the tribes to move to new locations. The Missouri Indians, who arrived around 1650, were the first recorded tribe in this area. They were part of the Winnebago Tribe of the Great Lakes region. Missouri means "people having dugout canoes." In the early 1800s the Missouri tribe was defeated by their enemies, the Sac and Osage and the remnants of the Missouri tribe went to live with the Oto. Today, there are no full-blooded Missouri Indians.

The first person to leave a recorded description of a journey up the Missouri River past future St. Joseph was Etienne de Bourgmont in 1714. However, Frenchmen trading with the Indians had been traveling up and down the river for many years. Joseph Robidoux, founder of St. Joseph, first journeyed up the Missouri River from his home in St. Louis in 1799.

In 1803 the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France. It included all the land from the Gulf of Mexico to today's Canadian border and from the Mississippi River to Rocky Mountains. To find out what was in this newly purchased land, President Thomas Jefferson sent out the first United States-sponsored, military expedition. The expedition, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, left from St. Louis on May 14, 1804. The journey to the Pacific Ocean and back took a little over two years. They returned



to St. Louis on September 23, 1806. On the journey upriver, they passed future St. Joseph, known to them as St. Michael's Prairie, on July 7. St. Michael's Prairie was a campsite on the return trip when on September 12, 1806, they met an old Army friend who was also encamped at the site. From him they learned what had happened in the United States during their absence. They also learned that many thought they were dead or had been captured by the Spanish.

Lewis and Clark opened the way for American fur traders into the Louisiana Territory and for gradual settlement. The earliest communities grew up along the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. Then, in 1821 Missouri became a state. However, the present-day northwest Missouri, was not included in the state. It was Indian land, known as the Platte Territory. The tribes living in the Platte Territory were predominantly the Iowa and Sac and Fox. It was in the Platte Territory that fur trader Joseph Robidoux received a license to set up a fur post at Black Snake Hills. He was the only non-Indian that could legally live in the Platte Territory.

Joseph Robidoux's post was located at the point where a stream called Roy's Branch empties into the Missouri River. In the spring of 1827, Robidoux (pronounced Ro-bee-doo) moved his operation about a mile south to the mouth of Blacksnake Creek, which he decided would be a better location. Known as Blacksnake Hills, the area was a favorite gathering spot for several Native American tribes. The bluffs above the river, unique because of their fertile loess soil, were considered sacred ground. Although Missouri had become the 24th U.S. State in 1821, this area was still Indian Territory. Robidoux was popular with the various tribes, partly because he spoke several dialects, and because he was a skilled and experienced trader.



Finally, in 1837, the federal government bargained with the Indians for 2 million acres of land. It was called the Platte Purchase, and it added six northwestern counties to Missouri, among them Buchanan County, which encompasses St. Joseph. The Indians received \$7,500 and "other considerations" –including a 400-acre reservation across the river in Kansas. Robidoux' trading post was assigned a post office in 1840.

As for the astute fur trader prepared to sell new lots for his town, he set down one stipulation: No one could take possession until he had harvested his crop—marijuana. In those days, it was used in the making of hemp.

Robidoux had negotiated with two town planners to design a street pattern. One, Simeon Kemper, suggested a city with wide avenues and parks. The other, Frederick A. Smith, devised a plan featuring narrow streets. The narrow-street plan prevailed. Robidoux reportedly remarked, "I want to sell my land in lots, not give it away in streets."

The original town was bounded by the Missouri River on the west, Sixth Street on the east, Messanie Street on the south and Robidoux Street on the north. The east-west streets were named for Robidoux family members—second wife Angelique, daughters Messanie and Sylvanie, and sons Charles, Edmond, Felix, Francis, Jules (for Julius Caesar) and Faraon.

The settlement grew steadily, but the discovery of gold in California in 1848 turned it into a boom area. Gold seekers came across Missouri to St. Joseph by steamboat, to where the city's location on the westward bend of the Missouri River made it one of two choice "jumping-off" points (the other was Independence, about 60 miles southwest), a fact that city promoters enhanced with aggressive advertising in the eastern press.

Gold rushers bought supplies here for the westward wagon trek. Some have estimated that as many as 50,000 passed through in 1849 alone. Some 100,000 more pioneers would crowd the streets, bound for California and other points west, before trains shrank the distance and took most of the pain out of the trip.

NOTABLE DISTINCTIONS IN EARLY ST. JOSEPH HISTORY

- ★ The first train from the east arrived here February 14, 1859. Until after the Civil War, St. Joseph was the westernmost point accessible by rail.
- ★ By 1900, St. Joseph was receiving more than 100 passenger trains a day.
- ★ The Pony Express began here April 3, 1860.
- ★ On the notorious side: Jesse James was assassinated April 3, 1882 by Robert Ford, after setting up residence to plan more bank holdups.
- ★ In 1887, St. Joseph became the second city in the U.S. (Richmond, Virginia, was the first) to have electric streetcars.

- ★ In 1889, the city hosted the New Era Exposition, in hopes of being chosen as the site for a future World's Fair. A disastrous fire destroyed much of the fair, caused financial ruin for its major backers and ended any hope of attracting a World's Fair.
- ★ Wholesale houses—shoes, dry goods and hardware were among the major ones—boosted St. Joseph's prosperity during its Golden Age of the late 19th century. St. Joseph at one time ranked fourth nationally in dry goods sales, fifth in hardware.
- ★ St. Joseph had its first telephone exchange in 1879. When the city was linked with the Atchison, Kansas, exchange in 1881, it marked the first inter-city connection west of Buffalo, New York.

Livestock has been a major part of St. Joseph's economy since 1846. Swift and Armour were the dominant names through the first six decades of this century, when employment totals were 6,000 or more for the industry here.

It's been nearly a century since some misguided civic boosters grossly inflated St. Joseph's federal census figure to report a population in 1900 of 102,979. (The story goes that they got the census taker drunk, then propelled him several times through the same populous neighborhoods.) It had been 52,324 in 1890, and a more reasonable 77,403 was reported for 1910. The city suffered for years attempting to explain the "population loss" in the decade after 1900.

The roles of the railroads and meatpacking houses have declined, but St. Joseph today remains a regional hub built on a diversified economy. Agribusiness, foodstuffs, and pet foods are among major manufacturing commodities. Efforts to promote tourism have taken on a new emphasis as St. Joseph seeks to build its share of what is the state's fastest-growing industry.

Missouri Western State University, founded in 1965, attracts a student body of over 5,000 since its founding in 1965. (St. Joseph Junior College dated back to 1915.) The city also boasts a full-time symphony, two resident theater organizations, a community chorus, a Performing Arts Association which books national entertainers and numerous expositions and festivals.

St. Joseph's colorful history of a century and a half has fulfilled the vision of renowned naturalist John James Audubon who, in a May, 1843, visit (two months before its official incorporation) described Robidoux's settlement as *"a delightful place for a populous city that will be here some 50 years hence."*



Bill Gerling, Assistant Director Assessment/Social Studies Consultant

End of Course Tests for American Government and American History

The State Board of Education approved end of course tests for both American History and American Government in February. The State Board considered student motivation, timing in taking and returning test results, and relevance to real world skills in adopting these tests. These social studies' tests would be implemented in the 2009- 2010 school year.

Some guiding principles the Board considered in adopting this new testing are: releasing a complete form of the test the first year, fluid testing windows at different times of the year, online and paper versions of the test, local scoring by teachers and contractor scoring. The tests will take one class period and will be criterion referenced to the grade-level expectations. Districts will be expected to use the results for at least 10% of the student's grade. Reports will be issued with the same achievement levels now used in the MAP testing program.

Being An American Essay Contest Fall 2008

The Bill of Rights Institute is pleased to announce that the second annual Being an American Essay Contest

will expand its state eligibility from three to twenty states!

The twenty states are Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia.

Teachers from your states are critical to the success of this program. For that reason, students AND teachers are eligible for over 25 essay contest awards totaling \$58,650. It is easy to make the essay contest an assignment in the classroom, and there is no charge to participate!

Funded by the John Templeton Foundation, the Being an American Essay Contest starts this fall. Please let your teachers know that they can visit <http://www.BeingAnAmerican.org> NOW to register to receive the free information packet, and to check back throughout the summer for updates. Information packets will be mailed on September 4, 2007.

Thank you for your help in making Being An American essay contest a success and be sure to visit <http://www.BeingAnAmerican.org>, or call 800-838-7870, ext. 11 today!

SUMMER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

AP World History Summer Institute & AP Human Geography Summer Institute

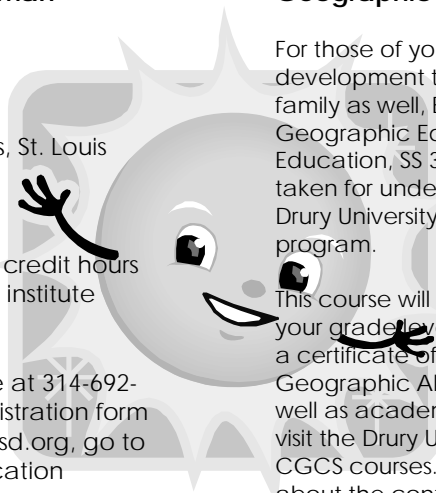
Dates: July 30-August 3, 2007
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day
Location: The RCEW Building on UMSL Campus, St. Louis
Cost: \$300 for CSD member districts
\$350 for non-member districts
Graduate Credit:
Southeast Missouri State will award 3 graduate credit hours FREE to all Missouri teachers who complete the institute successfully.

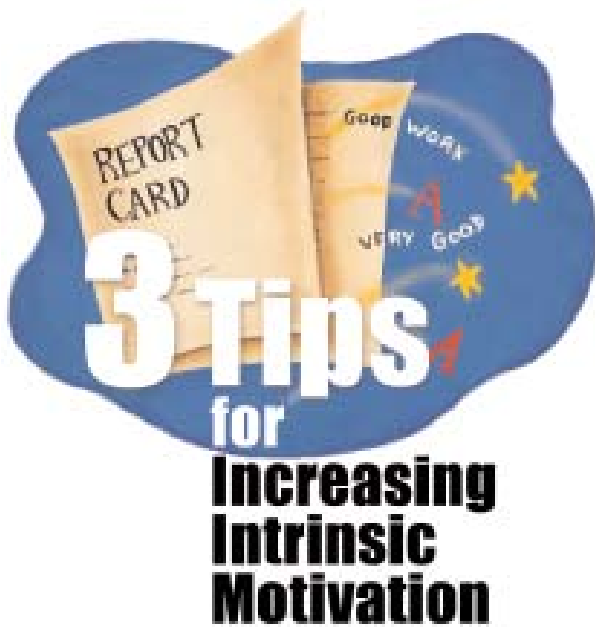
For more information contact Megan Moncure at 314-692-9702 or mmoncure@csd.org. The flyer with registration form can be downloaded from our website, www.csd.org, go to Professional Development-->International Education Consortium.

Geographic Education

For those of you who might be looking for some professional development this summer, but want to spend time with your family as well, Emily Cleek and Sean Terry are offering a Geographic Education online course this summer (Geographic Education, SS 390/690). It is a three credit course that can be taken for undergraduate or graduate credit. It is through the Drury University College of Graduate and Continuing Studies program.

This course will be based around building lesson plans to meet your grade level needs. The course will provide all students with a certificate of professional development from the Missouri Geographic Alliance to help meet your professional needs as well as academic ones. If you have further questions, feel free to visit the Drury University website and check out the schedule for CGCS courses. You can also contact Dr. Terry with any questions about the content or expectations of the course at sterry@drury.edu.





Much of the literature about student motivation looks at what teachers can do to encourage high levels of student performance through extrinsic means, such as rewards and punishments. Common rewards include tokens, from candy and coupons to gold stars. Punishments may include loss of privileges, timeouts, time after school, or simply more work. Do extrinsic motivators work? Sure, in the short term. But when the reward or punishment is withdrawn, high-level performance also tends to disappear — if it ever was achieved. That's the problem with extrinsic motivation: Students don't "own" their accomplishments; their teachers do.

For students to own their accomplishments, they must be intrinsically motivated to do high-level work. For most students and teachers, this means gradually converting extrinsic motivation into intrinsic motivation. Never an easy task, the conversion can be even more difficult during these test-happy times because tests and test results tend to be used as — and result in — extrinsic rewards and punishments.

Students who feel good about themselves and their abilities — who are intrinsically motivated — are more creative, don't need to be reminded as often about their responsibilities, are better behaved, enjoy school, and have lower rates of absenteeism than do students whose performance depends on extrinsic motivation. And, as a bonus, intrinsically motivated students naturally do better on tests.

Following are three tips that can help students work to high levels because the drive to perform comes from within:

1 Build pride in workmanship. Create a classroom culture that values high-level performance. If students consistently feel good about their performance, they will internalize those good feelings and strive to do well every time. They will welcome praise but won't depend on it because their job satisfaction will come from knowing that they have done their best work.

2 Create a joyful persistence. Use problems and mistakes as opportunities for positive learning, not blame or other negative messages. Remember: Edison didn't fail 6,000 times to find the right filament for his light bulb; he *discovered* 6,000 things that wouldn't work. Teaching students the value of persistence helps create a joy in working that students can internalize to get them through difficult assignments and emerge successful.

3 Make stress a positive. Fear of failure — will a task or a test result in a reward or a punishment? — creates negative stress. Excitement and joyful anticipation also create stress, but of a positive kind. When students take pride in their work and in overcoming obstacles and conquering challenges, negative stress is replaced by excitement and satisfaction.

Students who don't fear failure can take risks that propel them to higher levels of accomplishment.

— Donovan R. Walling

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Share the knowledge. Copies of "Increasing Intrinsic Motivation" may be made and disseminated (free of charge) without further permission.

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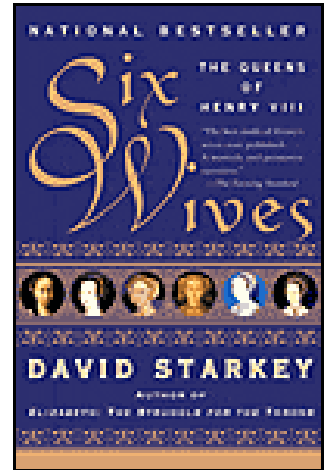
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Burgard on Books

Book Reviews by Karen Burgard, MCSS Historian

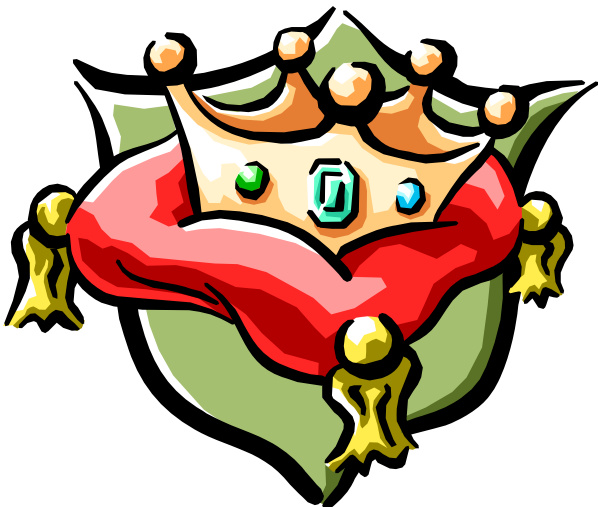


Six Wives: The Queens of Henry VIII

David Starkey

Both the Tudor family and the corresponding Elizabethan era have captivated me for many years. The stories so replete with revenge, intrigue, family dysfunction, and betrayal have always seemed to fascinate me. So, when I heard that there was a relatively new book published on Henry VIII and his six wives, I knew I couldn't pass it up. It unfortunately took me nearly three years to tackle the project, but I must say it was well worth the wait.

Six Wives: The Queens of Henry VIII is daunting at first glance. It is over 700 pages and that can be intimidating for even those most avid of readers. But, I would say to anyone that has some free time, possibly over winter or summer break, to give it a chance. Starkey dedicates well over half of this work to Henry's first two wives, Catherine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn. Obviously the most interesting of the six wives, Starkey attempts to paint a thorough and complete picture of them. He not only defines these women's personalities and meticulously examines their relationship with King Henry, but also uncovers the underlying political, social, and economic issues occurring in England at the time. The remainder of the book, approximately two hundred pages, is left to the remaining four wives. This section of the book seems almost like an after thought and does not provide the same powerful punch that the first five hundred pages do. It is clear that Starkey believes Henry's first two wives were the most pivotal and influential to English monarch history.



David Starkey's book is a quality read. It is a book that both the most dedicated historian and the average reader can enjoy. For the historian, Starkey does an incredible job of supporting his work with an immense amount of historical inquiry and research. But, for the casual reader, it is an easy read; easy to follow, it keeps the reader's interest, and does not get bogged down with dense historical jargon. Still, probably the best aspect to Six Wives is that it reads like a modern day soap opera. From the first page to the last, readers feel like they are transformed into an Elizabethan version of personal crisis and drama that so many of us flock to with our daily television shows.

Missouri Council for the Social Studies

horizon

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We Are On The Web!
www.mosocialstudies.org

Creating effective citizens



Museum Spotlight

The Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center and State Museum

The Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center and State Museum stands in tribute to the legacy of Kansas City's early African American pioneers, and embodies the artistic, cultural and social history of the African American experience, especially in the Midwest. The mission of the center is to commemorate and promote the contributions Black people have made in Kansas City and surrounding communities. Three permanent exhibits tell the story of African Americans who have helped make America a great nation: 1) Bruce R. Watkins as a Tuskegee Airman, businessman, civic leader, and politician; 2) Life and Times of York; and 3) Jazz Greats Of The Ages.

The Bruce Center and Museum houses the Gertrude H. Keith Resource Library with a Hall of Fame. Inductees are men and woman who have helped to shape the city's and state's history and culture. The library also houses the York Center which is a great place for students of all ages to find resources to help them complete individual and class projects relating to "Martin Luther King Day," "Black History Month," "Juneteenth," "Missouri History Day," and "National History Day."

Address: 3700 Blue Parkway. Open: Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm. Admission: free, donations are welcome. Phone: 816.513.0700. Web site: www.kcmo.org/parks. Fax: 816. 513.0710.

