

PRESERVATION NEWS

the newsletter of Historic Seattle
Educate. Advocate. Preserve.

volume 36
issue 1
January
2010

Learning from Historic Sites and Annual Members Meeting

Washington Hall (Danish Brotherhood Hall)

When: Monday, January 25, 5:30 pm-7 pm

Where: 153 14th Avenue, one block north of E. Yesler at E. Fir Street

Registration: Free/donation

Be among the first visitors to Historic Seattle's newest project. Historic Seattle purchased Washington Hall, the former home of the Danish Brotherhood and On the Boards in June 2009 and is nearing completion of the first, limited phase of improvements. The work is all about making the Hall secure, safe, and comfortable for use again as a place for people to gather for arts, social, and cultural events. We are investing over half a million dollars to stabilize the building shell, upgrade or replace systems, and improve appearances with the expectation that the building will then function well and serve the need for affordable rental space for a wide range of users. Broadway Management Group, a nonprofit that books and manages Broadway Performance Hall and other arts facilities, will manage Washington Hall for us. They will rent the Main Hall and Lodge Room for public and private events of all types that will generate arts and cultural programming, as well as income to fund operating expenses. We hope to run on this model until partners are found and the economy improves so that a successful capital campaign can be mounted to fund the major rehabilitation of the building.

Our goal is to begin operating in late winter 2010, celebrating with a grand re-opening party that showcases the history and the future of Washington Hall. The event is being planned with staff of 4Culture, the county-wide arts/culture/heritage funding organization that has been our initial partner in acquiring Washington Hall and making plans for the future. With 4Culture, we have been engaging the community – artists, arts supporters, neighborhood residents, and others with interest – to understand the needs and desires for the new life of the building. As we talk to people with experience and skills we will tap their knowledge of operating models



and develop an ongoing advisory group to assist with policies to guide operations. We will work to find the right balance between the needs of potential renters, our need for rental income, and impacts of use on the neighborhood, particularly large event traffic and parking impacts.

If you have questions or would like to become involved as a volunteer in helping fix-up the building or develop operating policies, please contact Mark Blatter at (206) 622-5444, ext. 235 or markb@historicseattle.org. We are also using Washington Hall as our Preserving Your Old House demonstration project this year, showing appropriate techniques for plaster work, window repair, woodwork repair and painting. See our 2010 Program Brochure or go online to www.historicseattle.org for dates and registration.

New Faces at the Dearborn House

Kelten Johnson

Kelten Johnson interned with Historic Seattle in 2009 and was recently hired as Project Manager to support our Real Estate Development team. He has a background in commercial real estate with time spent on the brokerage side, focused on investment properties, and on the development side, working for a small investment real estate firm specializing in urban in-fill projects. Kelten is a graduate of Colorado State University and is continuing his study of commercial real estate at the University of Washington through

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From Executive Director Kathleen Brooker: *Partners*



Marrison Narkin

Washington Hall is gradually coming back to life. The radiators are working again; the rest rooms are replaced; and the roof is repaired. Debris accumulated over the years has been hauled out. Our contractor, RAFN, is making headway with basic structural repairs, drywall, and paint. A few intrepid dance companies are using the assembly hall for rehearsal. The work ahead is significant but we are confident that the value of this place

warrants the efforts to return it to a community gathering place again. We are seeking the right partner(s) with an interest in ownership, shared or otherwise, to support and participate in the investment ahead. In the meantime we are beginning an oral history project and invite your recollections. Call or e-mail Eugenia Woo, Director of Preservation Services, at 622-5444 x 245, eugeniaw@historicseattle.org if you have stories to share.

The Hall has reminded me of how important relationships are to preservation. Historic Seattle has a wonderful record of accomplishment in this arena. Most of what we've accomplished in the past 35 years has resulted from collaborations. Good Shepherd Center in Wallingford has grown organically over the past 35 years to host an array of community groups from charter school to gardening; artist live/work space to modern music performance. One good user often attracts another. In the case of the Cadillac Building in Pioneer Square, it required leadership and fiscal courage to literally pick the building up after the 2001 earthquake. Finding the right user, though, was equally critical. In this case, it was the National Park Service, which found it a perfect fit for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. No new building could ever resonate with the history of Seattle in the way that the Cadillac does. Without the right user, buildings are hollow. And without the right people, an organization falters.

I've been proud to watch our membership grow from two interesting directions in the past year. Our new corporate level membership has brought us important support and

valuable connections for our real estate ventures. And the Young Preservationists Group has taken off through its own initiative, using Facebook and other social networks to connect our 20-something volunteers with other Seattle-lovers and young professionals. Groups and communities can be partners as well. Through our non-profit partners, including the National Trust, the Washington Trust, 4Culture, the City, and many others, we've received great support and made new connections. Neighborhood organizations have a tremendous amount of capital invested in their quality of life; and individuals with their own history, curiosity, and expertise make these contacts every day.

All these relationships can be sustained and bring new players to the table, which in turn allows us to do more projects into the future. And that's the fun part of preservation. With partners—those we know and those we have not yet met—we can save, conserve, and bring back the vitality of Washington Hall, Carmack House, Alki Homestead, or Mukai Home and Garden on Vashon Island. Getting to know each other makes those connections happen. We invite your membership and your participation in 2010. Together we can make 2010 a year for the creative and collaborative efforts which sustain our historic places and neighborhoods.

New Faces at Dearborn House *continued*

the Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies and the Commercial Real Estate Certificate Program.

Sue DeRosa

We were pleased when Sue DeRosa, our 2007 Volunteer of the Year and an invaluable volunteer in preparing for the yearly Bungalow Fair, agreed to step in as a part-time Administrative Assistant. This gives Mary Halecki, Historic Seattle's longtime Administrative Assistant, the time she needs to follow her teaching dream, going to part-time in order to be adjunct instructor in English and Mathematics at Seattle Central Community College.

Sue brings over two decades of experience as an Executive Assistant in the corporate world to her role. Sue can be found at the Dearborn House weekday mornings providing administrative support to Dearborn staff.

Council of the Historic Seattle Preservation and Development Authority

- Rick Sever, Chair
- Karen D. Breckenridge
- Sharon Coleman
- Andrea Divoky
- James Fearn
- Gabriel Grant
- Michael Herschensohn
- Mary McCumber
- Pete Mills
- Tina O'Brien
- Rico Quirindongo
- Marcia Wagoner
- Kathleen Brooker, Executive Director

Board of Directors of the Historic Seattle Preservation Foundation

- Michael Herschensohn, President
- Kathleen Brooker
- James Fearn
- Gary Gaffner
- Rick Sever

Victorian Row Lead-Based Paint Stabilization

A recent extensive survey of interior and exterior finishes on Victorian Row Apartments determined that lead-based paint was found in a variety of locations throughout the building. Historic Seattle applied for and was awarded a \$183,680 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control through the State of Washington, Department of Commerce. A ten percent Historic Seattle required match brought total project funds to \$202,048, an average of \$14,432 per unit. These funds were dedicated to the identification of lead-based paint and hazards, lab analysis and remediation recommendations, paint stabilization, soil segregation and lead-dust cleaning, clearance testing, and temporary housing costs for building tenants during the phased project. It is anticipated that the project will take

eight months and will be completed by August 2010.

Victorian Row, built in 1891, is historically and architecturally significant as the only pre-1900 frame apartment block existing in Seattle today. The building was destined for demolition when Historic Seattle entered into a limited partnership with the owner and used tax credits to rehabilitate the structure into 14 units of low-income housing. Victorian Row Apartments were designated a City of Seattle Landmark in 1979 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1990.



Historic Seattle

“Best and Most Influential” According to Seattle Magazine



Ann Gillette

In December 2009, Seattle Magazine took notice of two Historic Seattle projects, Washington Hall and the Carmack House, in its “Best of 2009” listing under Architecture. That followed Seattle Magazine’s November 2009 issue, which shared its pick of the “Most Influential People of 2009.” We were delighted that Kathleen Brooker, our Executive Director (who celebrates her second anniversary with us in February) was included in the roster. The magazine says, “She helped steer the group to a huge victory this year with the acquisition of the endangered century-old multi-ethnic arts venue Washington Hall. ‘That’s why I love buildings almost as much as people,’ Brooker says. ‘They shelter us, we protect them; they can grow to embrace new life, and we can grow by making the connections that make it work.’”

Congratulations, Kathleen!

PRESERVATION NEWS

is a publication of Historic Seattle

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Events of Interest

Historic Seattle

Council meetings

Third Thursday at 8 am at the Dearborn House 1117 Minor Avenue (206) 622-6952

Seattle Landmarks

Preservation Board

First and third Wednesdays at 3:30 pm Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Ave, 40th floor, Room 4060, unless otherwise announced.

Historic Preservation Dept. of Neighborhoods, 700 5th Avenue, Ste. 1700, Seattle, WA 98124 (206) 684-0228

King County Landmarks Commission

Fourth Thursday at 4:30 pm, 400 Yesler Way, Suite 510 Seattle, WA 98104, unless otherwise announced. Contact: King County Historic Preservation Program, Office of Business Relations and Economic Development (206) 296-8689

Preservation advocacy takes many forms. We advocate by conducting educational programs, raising awareness through technology and media, preparing local and National Register nominations, and working collaboratively with historic property owners, community groups, and local government representatives. In 2009, Historic Seattle engaged in a variety of advocacy efforts that will continue through 2010. Here are some highlights:

Hello, Blogosphere!

Watch for the launch this month of our new preservation blog MAin2. The name draws inspiration from an old Seattle telephone prefix—MAin. Our numeric prefix is “622.” Hence, MAin2. We created a blog about preservation because we believe it is the best way to get timely information to our members and the general public about issues and events related to preservation in Seattle, King County, and throughout Puget Sound. MAin2 will also provide you with a public voice about preservation issues that matter to you. Go to our web site for a link to MAin2.

Alki Homestead Endangered

West Seattle’s Alki Homestead is endangered. For the last several months, Historic Seattle has been offering technical assistance to the owner to encourage rehabilitation of the log building, a unique City of Seattle landmark built in 1903. The Homestead was damaged by a fire in January 2009 and has been closed since. In a briefing to the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) of the Landmarks Preservation Board in November 2009, the owner discussed the condition of the building (post-fire) and his desire to seek demolition approval. Historic Seattle has provided him with information about the Certificate of Approval process with the Board, technical information about the restoration of historic log buildings, and financial incentives available for landmark properties.



Alki Homestead in West Seattle

Engenia Woo

Local and National Register Nominations

Historic Seattle is working with University of Washington graduate student intern Megan Meulem to prepare a City of Seattle landmark nomination for a Craftsman bungalow in West Seattle. Built in 1915, the house was designed by Victoria, B.C. architect Elmer E. Green, who produced a bungalow plan book in 1912. His designs can be found throughout Seattle. The house in West Seattle is a fine example of Green’s local work, represents the more modest Craftsman homes found in Seattle neighborhoods, and possesses a high degree of physical integrity on both the exterior and interior.

Historic Seattle is preparing a National Register of Historic Places nomination for Washington Hall. Already a City of Seattle landmark, the building is currently undergoing renovation. We are submitting the National Register nomination because Washington Hall deserves to be further recognized and honored for its significance. National Register listing will also qualify the building for federal historic tax credits for the rehabilitation work we plan to undertake.

Young Preservationists Group Program Presented at National Preservation Conference

The National Trust for Historic Preservation invited Historic Seattle's Young Preservationist Group (YPG) to be a featured new program at the National Preservation Conference in Nashville in October 2009. As part of an educational session entitled, "Preservationists Don't Grow on Trees, We Plant Them Young," Kathleen Brooker spoke to other preservation organizations about how YPG helps connect young people to the preservationist movement. She specifically highlighted the YPG's Speed Mentoring event, which brought new activists together with prominent preservation leaders from various fields, including architecture, appraising, development, and public policy. The YPG has been a leader in introducing young people to preservation, not only in a social context, but in a way that fosters activism and engagement in contemporary preservation issues.



A group of Historic Seattle's Young Preservationists

Fall Interns

The Development team welcomed two new interns this fall, Lynn Kim and Josh Mahar. Lynn is a post-baccalaureate Art History student at Seattle University and a regular volunteer in her community. Her attention to detail and professional approach to design were put to good use in preparing development materials and a presentation for the recent National Trust conference in Nashville. Josh Mahar is a University of Washington graduate in History and an activist in neighborhood development. Josh worked on various projects in Development, utilizing his skills in communication and embodying a deep passion for historic preservation. He will continue as a volunteer to document changes to Washington Hall for our web site. We thank them for their service and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Mary Kae McCullough Impacts Historic Seattle's Future

Recently a long-time friend and member of Historic Seattle, Mary Kae McCullough, notified us that we are in her estate plans. When asked why she chose to assist us in this important way, Mary Kae responded:

"Since moving to the area in 1984, Historic Seattle has been an important part of my life. Over the years I've enjoyed the programs, developed friendships and worked on numerous projects. It's been a delight to see the organization expand their outreach, engage new members, and save more of Seattle's architectural gems. The impact of Historic Seattle's work in preserving a single building has a ripple effect in the community. It helps maintain the character of the neighborhoods and the City we treasure. Because I want this work to continue, I've included Historic Seattle in my estate planning. It's a personal statement of what I value and a way to fund my wish for the future."

If Historic Seattle is a part of your estate plans, please let us know. If you have been thinking of including Historic Seattle in your estate plans or need further assistance, we would like to hear from you at kathleenb@historicseattle.org or (206) 622-5444, ext. 222.

Welcome Nitze-Stagen!

Our Corporate membership program continues to grow, providing valuable financial resources for our preservation projects. We are honored to have Nitze-Stagen support us again this year.

Founded in 1970, Nitze-Stagen is a private investment firm offering unique expertise in commercial and industrial property development. Through creative investment strategies and imaginative adaptive reuse, Nitze-Stagen has helped catalyze development and strengthen communities. The 2003 Starbucks Center in SODO and the redevelopment of Union Station are two examples of their successful approach to development. President and Chief Operating Officer Kevin Daniels has been a valued friend of Historic Seattle for many years as both an individual member and former Chair of Historic Seattle's Council. For further information on our Corporate membership program contact Joe Bushek at (206) 622-5444, ext. 238 or joeb@historicseattle.org.



Mary Kae McCullough

Marrisa Nabelin

Volunteers are the Foundation on which Historic Seattle was Built

It's been said that "historic preservation is only truly realized by people taking action."

In 1974 several individuals with kindred spirits, gathered to form the Historic Seattle Volunteer Association. The Association's goal was: "The preservation and enhancement of the historic heritage of the City of Seattle for the mutual pride and enjoyment of all citizens and the creation of a more livable environment with the historic areas of the city." By-laws were written, individuals were elected to various positions, and projects were defined.

Twenty-years later, in 1994, the numbers had grown and these individuals were recognized at a volunteer celebration which was held at the Leary Mansion on Sunday, December 4th, 1994. The Leary Mansion is best known as the Diocesan House, headquarters of the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia (western Washington).

Thirty-five years later, we have a thriving volunteer program with over 150 active volunteers and more wanting to get involved. The tasks may be somewhat different, but the motivation remains: a passion to help preserve Seattle's built community.

In February we will recognize the volunteers from 2009 that helped support the programs and events sponsored by Historic Seattle and delivered to the community.

Recently, a prior staff member and dedicated volunteer, Mollie Tremaine shared a photograph of the 1994 Historic Seattle volunteer holiday celebration (below). Mollie is in the center of the photo. On the far right is our current Council Chairman, Rick Sever and his wife Lisa. Others in the photo are listed below with question marks for the unknown names. We would love to know the names of the people that we are unable to identify—if you can fill in one or more of the blanks, please contact lucib@historicseattle.org.

Row 1: Tim Andersen, ??, Deb Barker, Lonnie Plenert, Griffin Plenert (toddler), ??

Row 2: Melba Caliano, Kate Krafft, ??, Mollie Tremaine, Marin Curry, Nancy Plenert, Lisa Sever, ??, Rick Sever, Barbara Stenson

Row 3: Mary Kae McCullough, ??, ??, Carol Tobin, ??, ??, John Chaney, ??, David Bates, Larry Matson, ??, ??, Andrea Divoky, ??.



1994 Historic Seattle Volunteer Holiday Celebration

courtesy of Mollie Tremaine


 Volunteer
 Appreciation
 Celebration
 Sunday,
 February 28th,
 2010
 Individual
 invitations will be
 sent in mid-January
 to all our active and
 prospective
 volunteers.

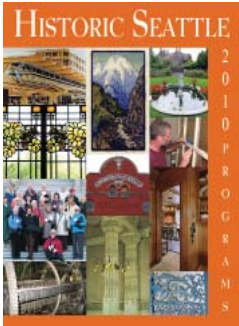


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 Be invited to
 exciting events
 and special
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 a member of
 Historic Seattle
 at
www.historicseattle.org
 or call (206)
 622-5444,
 ext. 238.*



Get Ready for Another Great Program Year!

By now you should have received in the mail our beautiful full color 2010 Program Brochure with a return envelope allowing for easy registration to all of our events. If you haven't, please call (206) 622-6952 to request it or go to our web site. We have tours, lectures, and special events that expand your view of Seattle and environs and give insight into its architectural delights. Our Learning from Historic Sites meetings are held in the Central District, Pioneer Square, the UW, and Mount Baker. We present Open to View events at a 1922 Mediterranean Revival home and at our own mid-century Modern landmark, the Egan House. We cruise Lake Union on the Virginia V to learn about the past, present, and future of its shoreline. We use Washington Hall as a "get dirty" place for workshops with experts on plaster, window repair, and wood prepping and painting. And a lecture in the most exquisite private ballroom in Seattle precedes a self-guided walking tour of West Highland Drive on Queen Anne Hill. Our Preserving Utilities series reprises 2009 sold-out tours of the Ash Grove Cement Company and Nucor Steel while adding visits to Mutual Materials, the century-old



brick manufacturer, the Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie, and the Georgetown Steam Plant, a National Engineering Landmark.

We travel to Olympia to explore the legislative building and the State Capitol campus with experts from the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks and visit the privately-owned Thornewood, Spokane architect Kirtland Cutter's most precisely British commission. We also take a trip to Yakima to see the most extraordinary Arts & Crafts period private home in the region, and other city landmarks.

Our 13th annual Bungalow Fair hosts 50 exhibitors. It features lectures on Arts & Crafts leather, Arts & Crafts architects in Portland, Oregon, and the work of block-print artist Frances Gearhart. As part of Preservation Month activities, Historic Seattle presents its 2nd Annual Preservation Awards at the Women's University Club downtown.

Please take time to consider our offerings and sign up early as many have limited enrollments. And, as always, members receive significant discounts on general public registration fees but only if they register in advance.

PASSAGES

We are saddened at the loss of two long time members and volunteers of Historic Seattle.

Mae Scourkes Desmond 1925 - 2009


Mae Desmond, age 84 and living in Bellevue, was a member of Historic Seattle since 1997 and until recently an active volunteer with the Arts & Crafts Guild. Mae enjoyed a 10-year career at Pacific Bell. She married Jerry Desmond in October 1954. They were the proud parents of six daughters. Mae was the manager of Pacific Fabrics in Bellevue for many years and took great pride in her work until her retirement at age 81. She was very active as a board member with Catholic Community Service and volunteered for many initiatives at St. Louise Catholic Church. Mae was a delight to be around and always had a smile on her face when helping out in the Dearborn House. She is survived by her daughters, a twin brother, and brother; as well as nine grandchildren.

Robert "Bob" Stuart Purser 1940 - 2009


Bob became a member of Historic Seattle in 1987 and was a volunteer for more than 20 years. An artist, designer, craftsman, and teacher, he earned a BA in Art in 1962, an MFA in Design from the UW, and a PhD in art education from the University of Oregon in 1978. He was the first art instructor at Bellevue College, where he taught for 44 years. He served as department chair and taught innovative classes in design, drawing, art appreciation, history of modern design and architecture, and color theory.

Bob was active in Northwest Designer Craftsmen, Allied Arts, and the Seattle Architecture Foundation, leading architecture tours in Seattle and Scandinavia with his wife of 24 years, Carolyn Purser, who passed on in 2007. Most recently he assisted Historic Seattle and the Beaux Arts Academy with walking tours of Beaux Arts Village.


Bob remarried and is survived by wife and friend of 45 years, Robin Jones; a sister, stepsons and friends and supporters.




Historic Seattle is pleased to announce the installation of four exhibit panels on the first floor of the Cadillac Hotel. They illustrate our efforts to save the building after the 2001 Nisqually earthquake. Thanks go to 4Culture, RAFN Company, SMR Architects, and Coughlin Porter Lundeen for their financial support of this project.



Upcoming Events Registration and Membership Form


For complete event descriptions, see our 2010 Program Brochure or go to www.historicseattle.org/events



EVENT REGISTRATION

		MEMBER PRE-REGISTRATION		GENERAL PUBLIC & DAY OF EVENT		STUDENT			
		NUMBER	PRICE	NUMBER	PRICE	NUMBER	PRICE	TOTAL	
PRESERVING YOUR OLD HOUSE	Demonstration: Plasterwork (3/13)	_____	\$ 8	_____	\$ 10	_____	\$ 5	\$ _____	
	Demonstration: Woodwork & Painting (4/10)	_____	\$ 8	_____	\$ 10	_____	\$ 5	\$ _____	
	Demonstration: Window Repair (6/5)	_____	\$ 8	_____	\$ 10	_____	\$ 5	\$ _____	
	Open House at Rejuvenation (3/24)	_____	\$ 0	_____	\$ 0	_____	\$ 0	\$ _____	
	Research Your House or a Building (5/15)	_____	\$ 40	_____	\$ 50	Register at www.brownpapertickets.com			
OUT-OF-TOWN TOURS	Olmsted's Olympia & Thornewood Greenscapes Lecture (4/12)	_____	\$ 10	_____	\$ 15	_____	\$ 5	\$ _____	
	Olympia & Thornewood Tour (4/14)	_____	\$ 95	_____	\$ 110	_____	\$ 60	\$ _____	
PRESERVING UTILITY	Mutual Materials, Newcastle (5/6)	_____	\$ 10	_____	\$ 15	_____	\$ 5	\$ _____	
	Nucor Steel (6/7)	_____	\$ 10	_____	\$ 15	_____	\$ 5	\$ _____	
SPECIAL EVENT	Second Annual Preservation Awards (5/11)	_____	\$ 50	_____	\$ 60	_____	\$ 25	\$ _____	
LOCAL TOURS	Dearborn & Stimson-Green Residences (2/9)	_____	\$ 25	_____	\$ 30	_____	\$ 15	\$ _____	
	Dearborn & Stimson-Green Residences (5/13)	_____	\$ 25	_____	\$ 30	_____	\$ 15	\$ _____	

Member discounts are only applicable for pre-registration received no later than three days prior to the event. After that, you will pay the public admission price.

Event Total \$ _____

HISTORIC SEATTLE MEMBERSHIP

Student \$25 Individual \$40 Family \$65 Friend \$100 Advocate \$250 Guardian \$500 Patron \$1000

Membership Total \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

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Make checks payable to: Historic Seattle

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Please detach and mail to: **Historic Seattle, 1117 Minor Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101**. You may become a member, renew your membership, make a donation and register for any of our events at www.historicseattle.org, using a credit card. You may also fax this page to: (206) 622-1197 with your credit card information or you may phone in your membership and registration by calling (206) 622-6952.