

## Historic Seattle Recognizes Our Volunteers

On February 27, 2011 Historic Seattle hosted volunteers at the Swedish Cultural Center for our annual Volunteer Recognition event. In 2010, more than 125 active volunteers worked on Council, boards, committees, the annual Bungalow Fair, Egan House and Queen Anne tours, our May Washington Hall Open House and work parties, the South Lake Union Party, and assisted with administrative and other tasks.

### 2010 Volunteer Award Recipients

#### Volunteer of the Year: Sharon Coleman

Sharon Coleman, Council member since 2004, was instrumental in setting up our March 2009 event at the Pacific and Ford McKay buildings before their disassembly. She also identified Historic Seattle as the recipient of proceeds from the Vulcan, Inc.-sponsored South Lake Union Block Party held in August 2010. This highly successful gathering provided us with community visibility and \$11,000 in funding. She chairs the Real Estate Development Committee.

#### Member Extraordinaire: Gary Gaffner

Gary Gaffner is a descendent of one of Seattle's pioneers, William Bell and has always had interest in the city's history. He has remarkable recall of the people and projects that defined the organization from its beginning. He was one of the founding constituency members of the Historic Seattle Council and served continuously from 1974 to 1997. When the Historic Seattle Preservation Foundation Board was formed in 1997, Gary enthusiastically shifted his energies to that Board of Directors and has served through the present.

#### Photo Excellence: Daniel Hawkins

Daniel is a newcomer to Historic Seattle, becoming a member in November of 2009. Within the month he signed up as a volunteer and offered his services as a photographer. In particular he expressed interest in our newly acquired Washington Hall, in the Squire Park neighborhood. He has been documenting the various stages of renovation of this unique property. Several of his photographs are posted on [www.usabingrowthall.org](http://www.usabingrowthall.org), and others have been used in grants and funding proposals to renovate the historic building. He was also on hand at our 2009 Volunteer recognition event to take candid photos of the award recipients.

#### Preservation Hero: Southwest Seattle Historical Society

The Southwest Seattle Historical Society (SWSHS) has been the grassroots, preservation organization leading local efforts to advocate for the protection, preservation and restoration of the historic Fir Lodge/Alki Homestead. Through the leadership of its staff, key board members, and dedicated volunteers, the SWSHS helped to galvanize the West Seattle community to come together to say "This Place Matters," culminating in a photo event and rally. (See pg. 4.)

#### Building Community through Technology: Carol Tompkins and Erin Ward

Historic Seattle was fortunate to have two fantastic volunteers in 2010 with the design and technical skills necessary to create a web site for Washington Hall. The web site was designed by Carol Tompkins with assistance from Erin Ward who provided considerable programming expertise to the project. Historic Seattle is thrilled to have a cool-looking website with substance to help us tell the story of Washington Hall and use it as a tool for promoting heritage, rental spaces, renovation progress, and fundraising campaigns.

#### Advocacy Hero: Brandon Spencer-Hartle

Brandon Spencer-Hartle, second-year graduate student at the University of Oregon Historic Preservation Program, joined Historic Seattle as an advocacy intern in the summer of 2010. He revised and expanded the content of the advocacy section of the Historic Seattle website, contributed to efforts to preserve the Alki Homestead, explored the relationship between historic preservation and contemporary infill construction, and researched financial incentives for preservation.

#### Longevity Recognition: James Fearn and Michael Herschensohn

Historic Seattle also acknowledged two Council members who have been committed to our organization for over 20 years. James Fearn served on the Historic Seattle's governing Council from 1989 until 1995, when he took a two year leave of absence to work in Europe. On his return he slipped back into his Council role and continues to serve. He was Chair of the Council in 2002, 2003, and 2004. He has also served on the Foundation Board since 2002.

Michael Herschensohn joined Historic Seattle's governing Council in 1989 and has served as Chair and in other roles to the present. He has also been a key Board member of the Preservation Foundation since its founding in 1997. He is currently President. At our February 2010 Volunteer Recognition ceremony, he received the 2009 Volunteer of the Year Award.



Sharon Coleman



Gary Gaffner



James Fearn



Brandon Spencer-Hartle

Photos this page  
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