

RESTORIA

The LCPS mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historic architecture in the Lower Columbia region. These structures are important assets that contribute to the area's history, culture, identity, and livability.



HOLIDAY HOME TOUR 2010

Submitted by Judy Ronis

With the holidays approaching, we again celebrate the season with our 6th Annual Holiday Home Tour, scheduled for Sunday, December 12th.

The Lower Columbia Preservation Society is pleased to showcase another year of fabulous homes on this year's tour. A major change will be the hours, from 2 pm to 6 pm. We decided to lengthen the tour hours earlier in the day so participants will not only have more time to see each decorated home but also have more daylight to find their way around. Some folks just don't like to be out wandering around in the dark. I don't blame them.

These homes will be all decked out with old-fashioned greenery, ornaments, candles, music, homemade cookies and holiday inspiration. Some of the homes will feature multiple Christmas trees. We are indebted to the homeowners who will be graciously sharing their holiday traditions, as well as the many volunteers who help make this tour happen.

The tour is self-guided and the homes can be visited in any order, with one exception. The hotel that is featured on our tour must be visited from 2-5 pm, as they are having another event at 5 pm. Tickets must be presented at each home and will not be sold during the event. Although the exact addresses are not revealed until the tickets are purchased, you will see historic homes spanning from the late 1800s to 2009, and feature styles from 1930s English Cottage to Craftsman to Victorian to Prairie to Queen Anne. The hotel boasts a style reminiscent of Astoria's cannery industry.

The 1915 Craftsman home was built for Captain Charles August and Hilda Elfving and retains most of its original features.

John Wicks was contracted to build the Prairie Style home in 1913 and is one of the few representations of this style in Astoria. In 1922, the daughter of the original owner watched Astoria burn from one of the bedroom windows.

The Victorian home on our tour was built in 1863 for John Hobson, who was a member of the first wagon train to come to Oregon on the Oregon Trail. It is also the third oldest house in Astoria. *Continued on next page.*



HOLIDAY HOME TOUR 2010

Submitted by Judy Ronis

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The 1930s English Cottage house was remodeled in 2009. It features a catslide roof and a round-top front door. It boasts views of the Columbia River as well as Young's Bay from most of the windows.

We are also showcasing one of the best examples of high-style Queen Anne houses, which was built in 1890. The interior was later remodeled during the Craftsman era to reflect that style.

This is one of the year's favorite LCPS events. If you have not already purchased your tickets, you can get them at the following locations: Victorian Lace in Astoria; Pacific Crest Cottage in Gearhart, Seaside Museum in Seaside or Campiche Studios in Long Beach, WA. A ticket to the Holiday Home Tour would make a terrific holiday gift to thank someone for doing something special for you. Ticket price is the same as last year's: \$18 for adults and children over 8 years old. Because of the delicate nature of personal collections shown, the tour is not recommended for children under 8 years old. Please be advised you may need walking shoes, and some homes have steep steps. For additional information, please contact Judy at 503-325-3310.

Last year we were blessed with no snow during the tour, so keep your fingers crossed for a clear afternoon this year. Don't miss this year's historic homes dressed for the holidays. What a great way to get into the holiday spirit!

The Holiday Home Tour this year is sponsored by Baked Alaska, Bergerson Tile and Stone, Debra Bowe of Windermere Realty, City Lumber, Easom Property Management, and Home Interior Consignments.

Recap: The Fall Shively Social

Submitted by Pam Alegria

Fall, fun, film and food were combined into an enjoyable social gathering at Shively Hall on October 23rd. With a break in the stormy weather, people came with delicious food of fresh salads, side dishes made from autumn's bounty, main courses of meatballs, turkey, pasta and desserts of lemon bars and chocolate chip cookies and more. Decorated in a cheery autumn motif with an inviting fire, people watched a film entitled "The Collectors." This 1985 PBS episode was filmed in Astoria featuring Michael Foster discussing his collection of Chinese porcelain. A member of the audience brought a lamp, which unbeknownst to her, was a Tiffany lamp. Steve Recken, former director of Clatsop County Historical Society was interviewed. Ann Marie was in the front row smiling and clapping. Houses shown included the Sanborn House, whose surprised owners Bill Bender and Jack Osterberg were at the social; Melissa Yowell's house (the Martin Foard Residence); James Ferguson's Residence; Father Dieleman's rental, and E.P. Noonan's Residence. Ray Hakala was seen up on a ladder meticulously painting the Ferguson house. Despite technical difficulties, the entertainment was a success as people patiently waited for the unofficial technical crew to solve the problem. It was an enjoyable evening; even the lights worked this year to illuminate the festivities.



Old House Forum Recap

Submitted by Pam Chestnut

On August 4th, LCPS members enjoyed Joy Diamond's lovely 1908 house, which was the first built on her block of 9th Street. Except for the well-blended office/bath/laundry addition on the rear, the layout, interior trim, doors, stairway and most floors are original. Joy did a great job of sanding and finishing the upstairs fir floors and installing new wood flooring in the entry and kitchen. She also repainted every wall herself, creating a warm and very cozy vintage ambiance. Big thanks to Joy for the can-do inspiration and the yummy treats. Those who stayed to talk shop convinced Scott McMullen to take us through his gray, white and purple work-in-progress on Irving between 8th and 9th. Watch for an Old House Forum on this house upon completion.

Oysterville Social and Tour Recap

Submitted by Pam Chestnut

We extend many thanks to our generous friends in the Oysterville Restoration Foundation for our wonderful day together on September 18th. Even the weather cooperated. The event commenced in the old church where author/historian Sydney Stevens and ORF president Tucker Wachsmuth told the story of the ups and downs of the oyster industry on Shoalwater Bay. We then walked in the sunshine to Oysterville Sea Farms, where owner Dan Driscoll gave us a tour of his operation on the very edge of the bay, while he shared his views on the industry. Sydney's great-grandfather founded Oysterville in 1854. Tucker's great-grandfather brought Eastern oysters to the bay in 1896 when the native oysters had been depleted. Dan's grandfather introduced Pacific oysters here in 1930. How about those credentials?

Just as we returned to enjoy a feast of oysters, steamer clams, barbequed chicken, salads and desserts, the sun gave way to a refreshing mist. Sydney was relieved that she had prepared tables for us all – inside her lovely settlement-era family home. The meats provided and skillfully prepared by our hosts were fabulously yummy and almost as great as the hospitality and camaraderie we enjoyed!

For those of you who missed this event, there will be another chance next summer for another delightful immersion into the history and mystique of this absolutely charming village. Do peruse Sydney's brilliant web-log (SydneyofOysterville.com). And remember this important factoid: a noisy noise annoys an oyster.



Historic Photographs Now on LCPS Website

As an added service to LCPS members and the general public, a large collection of photographs on historic topics has been posted on the LCPS website (www.lcpsweb.org). A sizeable collection of pictures on the aftermath of the Great Fire of 1922 is included.

A number of photos of early buildings and homes are included. There is also a collection depicting early

logging operations. Those with interest in our local history are encouraged to visit our website to learn more.

With Astoria's Bicentennial coming up soon, LCPS members may be interested in checking out some nice old photos of Astoria's Centennial at this site:

<http://www.pdxhistory.com/html/astoria.html>

HPLO Seeks to Revitalize Historic Downtowns

Submitted by Peggy Moretti

The Historic Preservation League of Oregon is pleased to announce the publication of their Special Report on "Healthy Historic Districts--Solutions to Help Preserve and Revitalize Oregon's Historic Downtowns." The report is the outcome of the 2010 Preservation Roundtable, which sought to identify solutions to those issues that keep historic commercial districts from thriving, such as ad hoc or incompatible development, vacant buildings and empty lots, insufficient financial stimulus, and confusing or inconsistent regulations.

Nearly 100 participants (including Astoria) representing diverse perspectives--preservationists, architects, city planners, government agencies, environmentalists, property owners, and developers--identified dozens of ideas that were distilled into nine key recommendations ranging from comprehensive district plans and design standards to tax incentives. You can find a pdf of the 20-page report on the HPLO website (www.HistoricPreservationLeague.org) or HPLO members may request a free printed copy by calling 503-243-1923.

LCPS members are also invited to follow the HPLO on Facebook for daily preservation news, or www.HistoricPreservationLeague.org

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Recap: Lighting Lecture

Submitted by Rosalie McCleary

We finally saw the light--not just one, but many, when Bo Sullivan came to town. A lighting historian at Rejuvenation, Sullivan is also the owner of Arcalus Period Design. He has a degree in architecture and is a national specialist in American lighting.

Sullivan's presentation, "From the Gilded Age to the Space Age: A Century of American Lighting, 1870-1970," was well received by an enthusiastic audience of about 40 in attendance. Bo traced the evolution of American lighting styles, sharing rare images from original trade catalogs and vintage home decor books. The major period styles covered included Victorian, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Arts & Crafts, Romance Revivals, and Modernistic. He also brought many of the catalogs with him, allowing audience members to peruse them at the end of his presentation to identify that elusive design they have or want.

Mr. Sullivan is available through his business to consult with clients on their own projects or to help with ideas and suggestions for period design. He can be contacted by e-mail at bo@arcalus.com or by phone at 503-467-4135. Handouts from his presentation are available upon request from the LCPS office in case you missed this event.



Masonry Workshop Recap

Submitted by Pam Chestnut

Those who braved the wet morning of October 9th were treated to a very enjoyable and informative workshop focused on natural stone building and repair by local masonry expert Joe Herman. Big thanks go to Pam and Jim Alegria for hosting the event at their lovely John Wicks Craftsman home. We were able to analyze and discuss issues regarding their river rock porch pillars and fireplace. After many interesting questions, the group went on a neighborhood tour, viewing the beautiful river rock grotto that Joe built at the Catholic Church as well as various original and rebuilt rock walls. One of my favorite authors, Wendell Berry, a Kentucky farmer and conservationist, writes that, in his opinion, the fundamentals of healthy human economy are nature, skills, kindness and trust. When I met Joe Herman, it occurred to me that he and his contracting business represent these standards. We are indeed fortunate that he calls Astoria his home.

Kudos

To **Brian Faherty** and **Paul Caruana** for completely restoring the ground level storefronts on the Astor Hotel in Astoria.

To **Becky Johnson** and **Paul Tuter** for expanding Vintage Hardware and breathing new life into the Astor Hotel lobby in Astoria.

To **Clatsop County Historical Society** for repainting the Heritage Museum in Astoria. The neo-classic building was repainted in appropriate historic colors.

To **Chris Nemlowill** and **Jack Harris** for repainting the Ft. George and Arcade buildings. Astoria's downtown is blossoming on the east end.

To **Steve Allen** for repainting the Desdemona Club.

To **Lum's Auto Center** for generously making their former facility on Exchange Street in Astoria available to LCPS for phase I of the Stramiello Estate Sale. And thanks to the "**Olson Team**" of TLC for advising and pricing for the sale...a huge help!



Please send your article submissions,
For Sale notices and Kudos to
Restoria@lcpsweb.org

LCPS Current Board Of Directors:

John Goodenberger, Chair
Pamela Alegria
Pam Chestnut
Ann Gydé
Pamela Holen
Rosalie McCleary
Mitch Mitchum
Karla Pearlstein
Scott Reuter
Todd Scott

Letter from the Chair*Submitted by John Goodenberger*

This fall our board members and members at large have been put to a test. We are succeeding.

Three years ago founding member Roberta Stramiello generously bequeathed a portion of her estate to LCPS. We received ownership of Roberta's personal belongings in September. Within a week we arranged a meeting with the owner of O'Gallerie in Portland to auction the larger pieces from that estate. A mere 30 hours later, moving trucks arrived. A handful of volunteers raced ahead of the movers, emptying one armoire after another, followed by sideboards, dressers and bookcases. In all, two large moving vans were filled with furniture. In the meantime volunteers packed clothing, Christmas ornaments, books, linens, countless files, china and dishware, filling more than 150 banana boxes and countless 40 gallon plastic bags.

That was day one.

We worked five more days, filled an additional moving van, hauled more than 50 pick-up truck loads, and left the 9,000 square foot house "broom clean." Throughout the move, everyone remained positive, supportive, and focused on the goal. What could have been an ordeal was, instead, a reaffirmation of our passion for preservation and the vitality of preservation.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP
PHONE NUMBER ()
EMAIL *

Membership Dues:

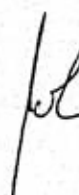
- ☐ \$15 Membership
☐ \$25 Family
☐ \$50 Business
☐ \$100 Supporter

Please indicate which areas you would be able to assist the organization as a volunteer:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | |

* LCPS will not share or sell members' email addresses.

As this letter goes to press, LCPS is engaging in the first of several estate sales. It will take more volunteers and energy. I have no doubt that it will be a success on every level.



*John Goodenberger,
LCPS Chair*

LOWER COLUMBIA
PRESERVATION
S.O.C.I.E.T.Y

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