



*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.*

## AUGUST MEETING: SEISMIC RETROFITTING

Did you know that your home is located in a Seismic Zone? Are you prepared for the big earthquake that we keep hearing about? Seismic retrofitting will be the topic of the August 30th meeting of the Lower Columbia Preservation Society. Ken Safe, PE, an associate engineer with Miller Consulting Engineers in Portland, will speak at 7:00 pm in Clatsop Community College's Patriot Hall, Room 326. The LCPS business meeting will be held after the lecture. Safe's presentation will address the following questions: What is retrofitting? What happens in an earthquake? How do engineers determine seismic needs? What are some ways homeowners can retrofit their building? We hope you will join us for this informative lecture.

## SEPTEMBER WORKSHOP ~ MASONRY

The LCPS will present a masonry workshop on Saturday, September 23, 2000. Joe Herman, a local mason, will conduct the class, which will focus on aspects of masonry related to old buildings. Topics will include: recognizing different mortar types; identifying failing mortar or bricks; options for repairing or replacing failing chimneys; the effects of earthquakes on masonry; and the basics of how to construct with brick and stone. Location and time for this workshop will be reported later in the local media.

## APRIL MEETING AND MAY WORKSHOP RECAP

Setting the stage for our spring focus on kitchen renovation, Kathleen Donahue, a Portland Certified Kitchen and Bath Designer, presented a lecture on Kitchen Theme Design. Using two projectors and screens, she showed an architectural style on one screen, and then on the other screen showed several examples of kitchens with features appropriate to the style of the house on the first screen. Ms. Donahue is extraordinarily qualified in her field, and we are grateful that she gave us her time and expertise in this most important area of preservation. Again, a special thanks to Michelle Schmitter and the Clatsop County Historical Society for hosting us at the Heritage Museum.

Our May workshop included a panel discussion on kitchen renovation by local contractors and homeowners. The panel members were: Tim Pierie of Tim Pierie Construction; Ed Overbay of Overbay Houseworks; Howard Klein of HK Design & Woodworking; Jim Coughlin of Orcinus Enterprises; Jeff Newenhof, owner of City Lumber Company; and Dave Pollard, homeowner. The moderator was Doug Thompson. If you are interested in seeing a videotape of the discussion, contact Dave Fitch, 325-8089. A special thanks to all of the above for their advice and time when they probably should have spent the day making a living! Thanks also to Clatsop Community College for allowing us to use their facilities and equipment.

The Kitchen Tour following the panel discussion included eight kitchens built between 1875 and 1992. House styles represented were Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, Italianate, an old and a new Craftsman, two English Cottages, and a 1970s Daylight Ranch. A great thank you to homeowners Bruce and Kristina Berney, Steve Blass and Carolyn Krusick, Tim and LaRee Bruton, Dave and Beth Fitch, Hope Harris and Bob Lennon, Curt and Rosemary Johnson, Dave Pollard and Linda Oldenkamp, and Randy and Debby Stemper for opening their delightful and charming kitchens to us. More thanks to John Goodenberger, Ann Gyde, Anne Phillips, Lynda Stewart, Tony and Roberta Stramiello, Fred White, and Melissa Yowell for serving as hosts in each of the homes.



## RESTORATION SPOTLIGHT

by Dave Fitch



About 6 years ago, Paul Barber found a small 1921 vernacular house in the Uniontown-Alameda historic district for a great price. Not so

great were the sagging roof, sagging ceilings, non-functioning utilities, and phantom foundation. Today the house is the City of Astoria's residential pick for the 2000 Dr. Edward Harvey award for the best completed exterior restoration.

Part of the reason for the award are the added dormers to the second floor that look like they came with the original design. Paul's reason for adding the dormers was to capture the view of the river and to improve the look of the house.

Although Paul did a great deal of the work himself, Steve Coy, a carpenter and friend, who died recently in an auto accident, added some very excellent craftsmanship. The ceilings are restored 1" x 8" "V"-beveled shiplap. The floors are painted original fir except for the kitchen and bath which are salvaged maple from an Astoria school gym floor. The kitchen cabinets are attractive original curved-corner style. The bathroom has a bead-board wainscot, a clawfoot tub, and a period sink with one leg. Utilities are all new, as is the foundation that was poured under the house, which was raised up into the air. Windows are either restored originals or added wood windows that match the original ones. The doors are new 6-panel vertical grain fir that maintain the original character of the house.

Paul is a busy guy, with two sons to raise, a Honda and Saab repair and sales business to run near Miles Crossing, and future plans to build another house in Seaside. Drive by 171 Hume Street to see how hard work and good taste have paid off.

## MEMBERS' FEATURE

Jan Gregor and Ashleigh Talbot Gregor,  
1546 Franklin, house built circa 1870.

By Hope Harris

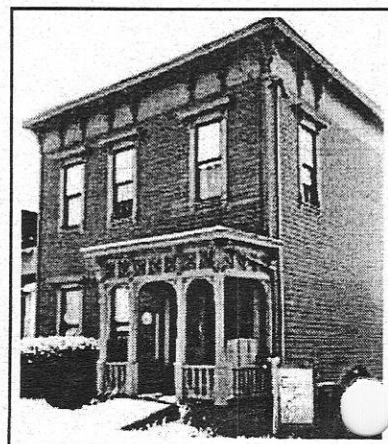
The Gregors grew up in the nuclear boomtown of Richland and then lived in Seattle since the early 80s. They met in 1995 and were married in 1996. They moved to Astoria last summer and bought the Charles Heilborn House.

Jan: "We moved here because of the houses, the incredible houses. We love this place because it's a 'real' town with a great history. I joined LCPS because I feel that if you buy an old house that is as old as your great-grandparents, then you become a steward of that house."

Ashleigh: "I heard about Astoria from a friend in 1995. It pretty much stuck in my head that there was a place that had retained the look and feel of what small towns must have looked like back in the 1940s to 1960s. We moved here to get away from uptight corporate Seattle—I was sick of that city.

The house originally belonged to the Charles Heilborn family. Heilborn was a pioneer furniture dealer and court treasurer. Later it was the residence of Eleanor (daughter of Captain Gustav Holmes) and George Nelson, ship's chandler, who sold supplies to ships in port. In 1929 it became the Stacey House, providing mainly meals (she ran a high-end boarding house) to professional people and other day workers. She retired in 1960 but maintained the place as her home until she passed on at the age of 104. Soon after that, the Ellenburg family bought the house and did much of the restoration, i.e., wiring, some wallpapering, etc. Then the house was sold to Joni Sherman who, regrettably, eliminated every closet in the house and turned each and every one into a bathroom. The house has seven toilets.

"We hope to keep the original integrity of the house, eventually painting it back to the original colors of what an Italianate looked like back in the 1870s, but that won't happen until probably next summer."





## Clatsop County Historical Society ANNUAL TOUR OF HOMES

The Clatsop County Historical Society is holding its annual Historic Homes Tour in conjunction with the Astoria Regatta on Saturday, August 12th and Sunday, August 13th, 2000. Historic residences in Alderbrook will be the focus for this year's tour. Alderbrook was once the Donation Land Claim of Robert Shortess. Shortess, a member of the Peoria party, arrived in the area sometime after 1840. Shortess named Ash, Birch, and Cedar Streets in Alderbrook. In 1870, Shortess gave away his land in Alderbrook to settle a \$600 debt. Colonel Kelly, the recipient of the property, sold one portion of the land for \$13,000 and another portion for \$100,000 in the 1880s.

The homes on the tour will be open both days from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Tickets for the self-guided tour are \$8.00 per person (children under 12 are free when accompanied by an adult) and are available at the Heritage Museum, 1618 Exchange Street. Included in the tour price is a booklet containing a photograph and brief history of each building and a location map. The Society is still looking for homeowners in Alderbrook who would be willing to open their homes during the homes tour weekend. Please give Michelle Schmitter a call at 325-2203 if you would like to participate.

### A JOB WELL DONE

by Rosemary Johnson

Several months ago, many of us attended a plaster workshop at the Flavel House. One thing I learned at that workshop was that I would need to hire a professional to do the big jobs. Several of us had Randy, of West Coast Plastering, (503) 663-0388, come to Astoria to give us estimates on our projects. As a result, I hired Randy to smooth out the living room ceiling (11 feet high), skim coat the hallway, and redo a curved wall on the staircase.

I was really pleased with the outcome. I'm glad I spent the extra money to have a professional do the work; Randy worked quickly and did a great job. He worked the plaster until it was smooth and needed just a little sanding.

Other contractors had told me to sheetrock the ceiling and put up a fake medallion, but Randy's work allowed me to retain the original plaster work and original medallion, which were part of the history of the house.

If you would like to see his work, give me a call at 325-6434 (evenings), and I'll be glad to show you what he did.

### KUDOS!!!

• To John and Ada Ann Wolcott, for restoring the stone retaining wall on their property. This is a huge project. If you haven't seen it, definitely stop by (17th & Irving) and watch the master craftsman, Joe Herman, at work. You'll be more than impressed.

• To the City of Astoria, Parks & Recreation Department, Astoria Column/John Jacob Astor Park Advisory Committee for holding Public meetings and seeking citizen input to develop a master plan for the Column grounds.

## LOWER COLUMBIA PRESERVATION SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Curtis & Rosemary Johnson  
Arno Michaelis  
Stephen & Kimberly Nurdning  
Ann Phillips  
Hotel Rosebriar  
Margaret & Tom Stevens  
Bob & Rosann Karby  
Karen Mellin  
Linda Oldenkamp & Dave Pollard  
Robert Oliva  
Anita Lennon  
Pat Roberts  
Cynthia Silvers  
Frank & Linda Stewart  
Anthony & Roberta Stramiello  
Bill & Adele Wagner  
Robert & Julie Brown  
Rosalie McCleary  
Samuel Sadtler  
Michelle Schmitter  
Al Somppi  
Jaakko Tuominen  
Fred & Marti White  
Melissa Yowell  
Robert Ross  
Brad Alstrom  
Kari Franzen & Robert Janz  
Jan Franzen  
Doug Thompson  
Benjamin Young Inn  
William Barnett  
Jan Mitchell & Roger Rocka  
Jane Audry  
Ken Beasley  
Tim & Laree Bruton  
Paul & Barbara Cooper  
John Goodenberger  
Karin Hoffman  
Del & Kathy Baldwin  
Bruce Bernery  
Mike & Joy Brewer  
Ken Charters & Julie Werner  
David & Beth Fitch  
Sue Hilton  
Ann Gyde  
June Lake  
Kevin Palo  
Nancy Anderson  
Jewell Benford  
Jo Brown & Liam Dunne  
Yaeko Carr  
Connie Clifford & Paul Benoit  
Teresa Clute  
Eric David  
Rae Goforth  
Eugene & Brenda Hamblock  
Carolyn Hammer  
Hope Harris & Bob Lennon  
Sharyn Hedbrook & Margaret Frimoth  
Robert Jacob  
Malcolm & Debbie McNeill

Janet R. Mead  
Mitch & Toni Mitchum  
Bill & Jan Nerenberg  
Robert & Cynthia Orlando  
Anthony W. Stoppello  
Michael & Diane Tiedeman  
Jim Weaver  
John & AdaAnne Wolcott  
Ron Zilli  
Michael Aokoych  
Debi Barner  
Kevin & Alice Beck  
Lloyd & Janet Bowler  
John & Sandra Bryan  
City Lumber  
Ron Buss  
Jane Disrude  
Richard Elfering  
Steve Ferber  
Jan Gregor  
Dana Gunderson & The Cannery Cafe  
Jo & Debra Hall  
Steve & Judy Hofheimer  
Cliff LaMear & Aline Schmidt  
Mary McDonald  
Ann Marie  
Annie & Jerry Oliver  
David & Jackie Parth  
Dave Pearson  
Jim Richards  
Byron Ruppel  
Yvonne Starr  
Don & Joan Webb  
Jim & Regina Wilkins  
Chris Williams  
Teri Arnall  
Karen Aya  
Christine Bryant  
Jim and Susan Bryant  
John Elwell  
Lori Miltenberger  
Trude Enke  
Linnea Gannaway  
James Hamrick  
State Historic Preservation  
Office, Salem  
Mary MacDonald  
Doug Shadbolt

#### WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Judith Atkinson  
Sharon Boring  
Jennifer Caisse  
Candy Glenn  
Jeannean Goss  
Roberta Heick  
Dian Kazlauskas  
Lois K. Larson  
Donalda Speight  
Katri Tuominen  
Zoe Ulshen



**AGENDA****AUGUST 30, 2000****7 - 8:30 pm**Clatsop Community College  
Patriot Hall, Room 326

- I. 7:00 - 8:00pm: Speaker, Ken Safe. **Seismic Retrofitting.**
- II. 8:00pm: short break
- III. Business meeting:  
Call to Order  
Treasurer's Report  
Membership Report  
Questions & Answers  
For the Good of the Organization

**NATIONAL HISTORIC  
REGISTRY TOURS**Latourette house,683 E Street, Gearhart, June 16,  
11 am to 3 pmMcCormick building,289-99 S. First, St. Helens, June 30,  
noon to 4 pm

For open house information:

[www.prd.state.or.us/about\\_shpo.html](http://www.prd.state.or.us/about_shpo.html)**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Want to Buy:** Wall lighting, sconces for 1900 Queen Ann. Please call Dave or Beth at 325-8089 evenings.

**For Sale:** 30" x 80" x 1 3/4" 6-panel pre-hung exterior door, vertical grain fir. Could also be used for an interior door. Clear, unstained, never used. \$400 new, now \$150. Please call Dave or Beth at 325-8089 evenings.

**For Sale:** Approximately 200 square feet of grooved oak boat decking. Best offer. Please call Rosemary at 325-6434 evenings.

**LCPS ORGANIZATION GAINS EXPOSURE**

The Friday before National Preservation Week, the Daily Astorian's Coast Weekend featured a front page picture and an article on the LCPS kitchen workshop. The following Monday, in honor of National Preservation Week, Fred and Marty White's home and the LCPS were featured on the front page of the Daily Astorian. The Oregonian and the Salem Statesman Journal newspapers also picked up the article and published it in their editions the following week. Linda Oldenkamp, LCPS Chair, wants us to know that she was misquoted as the organization's founder. Linda says the founders of LCPS are many and include the Historic Landmarks Commission and all the rest of us!

On another note, don't forget to recommend our group to others. If you know of someone who has just bought a "new" old house, you might want to give a membership in LCPS as a housewarming gift. Just fill out the application below with a note that it's a housewarming gift. Also consider giving a membership as a birthday gift, or giving a membership to a friend just because you want to help us grow stronger. We've found that people appreciate what we're doing and enjoy receiving the newsletter.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**NAME ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP PHONE NUMBER ☐

Apply \$5 workshop fee

☐

\$10 Membership (Individual)

☐

\$20 Contributing (Two at same address)

☐

\$50 Supporting

☐

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐

Planning meetings

☐

Membership

☐

Publicity

☐

Education

☐

Advocacy

☐

Newsletter

☐

Grant Writing

☐

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note our new mailing address  
and make checks payable to:**

Lower Columbia Preservation Society

Post Office Box 1334

Astoria, Oregon 97103