

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

by Lori Nicol, Gala Committee Chair

SPA's Gala and Auction, our biggest yearly event, was again a huge success! We raised nearly \$30,000 to further our goals of saving the historic treasures in the Spokane area.

There are many people to thank for this success. First, the donation of our generous underwriter, Larry Stone, covered nearly all of our expenses so that all money brought in at the auction was profit. Next, I wish to thank the Masonic Center's CEO Carlton Oakes for the generous donation of the beautiful facility and helpful staff. The SPA membership made many donations of items to help fill our silent and loud auctions, in addition to cash donations from several whom could not attend the event.



The fun and hard-working Gala Committee made generous donations of time as well as objects for the event. Special thanks go to Susan Traver, Vern Arneson, Carolyn Bryan, and Janine Arneson for organizing the silent auction, the loud auction and the dessert auction—better known as the Dessert Dash. The evening was made extra special by the amazing talents of JoAnn Stewart and Jeanette Brenner in decorating the banquet room. Thank you also to committee members Suzanne Markham, Dave Shockley, Jacqui Halvorson, Larry Grossman, Linda Milsow, Susan Winchell, Virginia Carter, Lesa Delisi, Kelly Lordan, Sheila Gates-Ping, and Doug Pennell.

Thank you to the volunteers who worked the night of the event, managing the auction tables as well as checking attendees in and out. They include Neil and Mary Huggins, Virginia Carter and Leon Sproule, Dave Shockley, Erika Steinhardt, and Kevin Brownlee.

Successful bidders received special vacations, dinners in historic homes, vintage car excursions, sailboat rides, ski packages, fabulous artwork, and numerous other packages provided by generous donors. Making this auction unusual among the many to choose from in Spokane these days is the inclusion of "vintage" items. Other audiences might appreciate the beauty seen in partial sets of antique crystal, or used doors, or other "re-purposed" treasures!

As you can see from the picture, SPA members and guests turned out in their best clothes to do justice to the beautiful decorations. Lindell Reason

provided lively music during the social hour, and near the close of the Gala, dance tunes were provided by Mark Walker Rhodes.

Planning for next year's event will begin soon. There are many options for making this annual event even more successful. It is a fun committee with a time-limited commitment. If you are interested in getting involved, contact Lori Nicol at LoriMNicol@aol.com or 509-624-5136.

June Quarterly Meeting

**Tuesday, June 10, 2008
6:00 P.M. (later than usual)
Glover Mansion
321 W. 8th Ave.**

Parking in the Medical Center Bld. lot, corner of 8th & McClellan

This June we meet at the fabulous Glover Mansion, now specializing in catered events and weddings. Our hosts, Bob & Kim Adolfsen, have graciously offered to match our budget and provide hors d'oeuvres. They will also provide wine and beer by the glass for a nominal fee with half of the proceeds gifted back to SPA as their generous donation. So don't bring anything to the potluck except yourself, and enjoy the meeting and tour of the newly refurbished Glover Mansion. Ample parking is available in the lot behind the Medical Center Building at the corner of 8th & McClellan for about 50-cents. Look for the stairs that lead down to the Mansion in the NW corner of the lot. See you there!

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Your Feedback Welcome

The SPA Update newsletter makes every effort to ensure the basic accuracy of the information contained herein. Please contact us promptly with any corrections or comments.

We encourage your contributions. Contact Communications Chair Sheila Mulligan at smulli@earthlink.net with story ideas or concerns.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear SPA Members,

Last fall, Spokane's American Institute of Architects chapter hosted the 2007 AIA Northwest & Pacific Regional Conference. The theme was "REnew, REcharge, and REinvent". Members from as near as Idaho and Montana and from as far as Alaska and Hawaii attended lectures, workshops on topics ranging from Green Architecture to new computer energy modeling techniques to Renovation, Rehabilitation and Renewal of America's built environment.

Many attendees stayed at The Davenport Hotel and dined out in establishments like Mizuna, Europa, Fugazzi's, and The Catacombs---all located in beautiful historic buildings. They toured the renovated Saranac Building, one of a handful of Platinum LEED standard buildings in the western U.S., and also the Fox Theater.

A bus trip featured a visit to St. John's Cathedral with its new stained glass windows, a drive through some of Spokane's Olmstead parks and gracious older neighborhoods, a visit to the E.J. Roberts Mansion in Browne's Addition, and a tour through new lofts in rejuvenated downtown warehouses.

A walking tour along tree-lined Riverside Avenue covered buildings like The Masonic, Lourdes, The Spokane Club, The Review Tower, and others farther east: the Fernwell, ONB, Paulsen, and recently renovated Legion Building. Those who never visited before were impressed, saying they looked forward to coming back to Spokane. Others who hadn't been here for many years were amazed by the transformation downtown. Clearly, historic preservation continues to be a key contributor to our region's quality of life and economic health.

In spite of recent successes, threats to historic properties arise continually. As I write this message in early May

the fate of The Jensen-Byrd building at the SIRT campus is still uncertain. On April 28th the City Council voted six to one to reverse a Hearing Examiner's decision to deny a property rezone just west of the beautiful 1893 French Renaissance Spokane County Courthouse. This remand set a bad precedent for zoning all over the city and also contradicts language in the city's Comprehensive Plan. In public testimony and letters SPA argued that allowing a new, 150-foot tall tower so close to the Courthouse was akin to allowing a speculative office building to be built next to the Washington Monument.

A historic church at the corner of 3rd and Division, a gateway to our downtown, will soon be razed and replaced with yet another strip mall building. Insensitive, out of scale development occurs in every neighborhood and in outlying rural areas, too. Those same visiting architects who marveled at Spokane's vibrant downtown scratched their heads and wondered how anyone could possibly tear down almost an entire block of fine historic buildings for yet another asphalt parking lot... in the very epicenter of the city!

Many of you will receive your annual renewal notices soon. Please renew promptly and encourage friends and family members to join SPA. Spokane Preservation Advocates is made up of civic-minded citizens and volunteers who understand and appreciate beauty and soul and heritage---as well as the dollars and cents and environmental stewardship of preservation. Only by maintaining and growing our membership will we have the resources and political clout to "fight the good fight."

Gary Lauerman AIA,
President

MOORE-TURNER HERITAGE GARDENS RECEIVES AWARD

by Lynn Mandyke, Corbin Art Center Director

The Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens is a recipient of the 2008 Valerie Sivinski Award for outstanding achievement in historic preservation. Dr. Allyson Brooks, State Historic Preservation Officer for the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, selected the project for the 18th Annual Awards Program. The significance of the Gardens was discovered in 1998, and became the inspiration for a nine year research, planning, and restoration process to save significant features and return the estate gardens to the time in which they flourished, which was

between 1911 and 1914. Established in 1889 and maintained until 1932 as residential gardens for the Moore and Turner families, the Gardens' extensive restoration was completed in August 2007.

Letters of support for the nomination were submitted by Teresa Brum, Spokane City-County Historic Preservation Officer; Mayor Mary Verner; Senator Chris Marr; Vern Arneson, President, Spokane Preservation Advocates; Jennifer Meisner, Executive Director for the Washington Trust

for Historic Preservation; and Joanne Moyer, Advisor, Washington, National Trust for Historic Preservation. Lynn Mandyke, project manager for the restoration, attended the awards ceremony in Olympia on Tuesday, May 13th, to accept the award on behalf of the City of Spokane Parks and Recreation Department. The ceremony, sponsored by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, is held during National Historic Preservation Month.

JUNE DOING-IT PROJECT

by Kelly Lordan

This house at 2027 W. Shannon is the location of the June 14 Doing-It project. We will start at 9:00 A.M. and probably run longer than our normal 12:00 noon quitting time. We're doing an "unveiling," which is to take inappropriate siding off a historic house. We will provide food for the volunteers.

Volunteers are asked to wear work clothes and shoes. Gloves are necessary, as we will be removing aluminum siding that has sharp edges and nails. We are going to recycle this aluminum siding so it will have to be de-nailed. Please bring your hammers and small crowbars.

VOLUNTEER AT THE MOORE-TURNER HERITAGE GARDENS!

by Paula Whitson

The Friends of the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens group has volunteer opportunities available for Tour Guides and Greeters for the upcoming season starting in June and continuing through the end of August. Tour Guides conduct one-hour tours through the Gardens, giving an historical overview.

Current schedule is Tuesday from 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.; Sunday from 9:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M. may be added if enough docents are available. Greeters welcome visitors to the Gardens, hand out brochures, and answer basic

questions during a two-hour shift on Saturday or Sunday from 10:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. For both the Guide and Greeter programs, volunteers select the dates and times they are available during the summer season.

Interested in volunteering? The Gardens are beautiful! You can't beat spending a few hours outdoors during Spokane's wonderful summers with visitors who love the Gardens. Contact Paula Whitson at 509-747-7355 or pwhit45989@aol.com.



E-Mail Newsletters?

SPA is striving to be as green as we can by saving paper where possible. If you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please let us know at smulli@earthlink.net and we'll add you to our growing list.

To those of you who prefer to continue to get a paper version, no notice is required.

AN UNCERTAIN TURN FOR THE JENSEN-BYRD BUILDING



Washington State University has delayed a final decision on the fate of the six-story Jensen-Byrd Building and whether or not it will ever be renovated is uncertain. On April 17th WSU received three proposals for rehabilitating the structure and surrounding land from: Wells & Company (Spokane), The Amidi Group (California) with Chris Kelly (Spokane), and the NexCore Group (Denver). WSU recently selected the NexCore proposal, which envisions only possible rehabilitation of the Jensen-Byrd Building in a later phase of project construction, if the first phase is successful. Therefore, if rehabilitation is undertaken, it might not begin for years. The other proposals would have rehabilitated the building immediately.

Meanwhile, the building stands nearly vacant and shows signs of neglect and deterioration. Although WSU's Request for Proposals describes the building as "historic" and states that demolition of the building "will not be considered in any Proposal, demolition remains an option.

The Jensen-Byrd Building was designed as a warehouse by architect Albert Held in 1909 for the Marshall-Wells Hardware Co. of Duluth, Minnesota. Today it is one of downtown's largest historic buildings. Ensuring its preservation has been one of SPA's top priorities since 2005, when WSU bought the 178,000-square-foot structure and three nearby properties for \$5.2 million from Cougar Property

Holdings (a nonprofit organization affiliated with the WSU Foundation, which buys properties for future university development). SPA became alarmed when WSU's first Request for Proposals, issued in 2005, did not mention the historic value of the building. Following numerous expressions of concern from SPA, members of the public, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, preservation developers, and members of the university community, WSU issued the revised Request for Proposals, which seemed to indicate a new willingness to consider rehabilitation. SPA will continue to advocate strongly for preservation of the Jensen-Byrd Building.

THE HERITAGE NETWORK TAKES ON THE PRESTINI PROJECT

Written for Loon Lake Times (edited)

It sounds like it's a long way away, but 2010 will be here before we know it and the Leno Prestini Committee, part of The National Heritage Network, is working hard to make sure we're ready to celebrate!!

Who is Leno Prestini, you ask? Leno was a self-taught artist who lived and worked in Clayton, Washington. He was a complex yet simple person whose paintings were vivid in color and imagination. He was also an artist in clay and many of his terra cotta works grace a variety of buildings in the Pacific Northwest.

Leno was one of the gifted modelers who designed and worked on decorative terra cotta that embellished many of the buildings in Spokane, like the Davenport Hotel and Paulson Building. Washington Brick and Lime buildings, where Prestini worked, can be found in Seattle, Portland and other cities. The committee is currently trying to determine which of these buildings Leno worked on while he was an employee at Washington Brick and Lime.



The Heritage Network is a non-profit organization formed to assist smaller heritage groups to preserve and promote the historical resources within their respective groups. Currently, there are 24 organizations participating in The Network, as well as individuals and businesses. Additional information on this organization is available from the Loon Lake Historical Society at the Old Schoolhouse.

The Leno Prestini Committee is currently in the planning stage of exhibits, a book, and a DVD to feature Leno's works. Residents with personal knowledge of Leno are urged to contact the committee by calling 509-233-2222 and leaving a message. Volunteers will then contact you to collect information that could be used in the project.

Three historical societies have already committed to hosting an exhibit in 2010 featuring Leno's work: The Stevens County Historical Society, The Loon Lake Historical Society, and the Clayton/Deer Park Historical

Society. Their exhibits will include numerous paintings, photographs, examples of his work, and other artifacts.

If you are not currently familiar with Leno Prestini, you can visit the museums in Colville and Loon Lake to get a preview of the coming show or visit www.lenoprestini.com. The committee has also developed a six-minute introductory DVD to the project, which is available for showing at meetings throughout the area. To see this video or to arrange for a showing, call 509-233-2222, or stop in at the Old Schoolhouse.

Donations toward this project are tax deductible and should be sent to The Heritage Network, PO Box 1051, Colville, WA 99114. Please include a note that the donation is for the Prestini Project.



Above is an example of Leno's terra cotta work.



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GET ACTIVE WITH DOING-IT PROJECTS



On Saturday, April 26th, volunteers assisted members of the Friends of The Moore-Turner Heritage Garden with a Spring Clean-Up. Twenty one volunteers collected trash, raked leaves, uncovered plantings, and weeded flower beds under the supervision of the property's new Gardener, Tara Newbury. Ms. Newbury, a recent hire of the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department, has special knowledge and expertise with historical gardens. It's fortunate the park board and city leadership understand the significance of the grounds. As the gardens develop and mature they will become a destination point for heritage garden tourists and local residents wanting

to "show off" our city to visitors. The entire facility, including the Corbin Art Center, is an asset to our community.

In March, Doing-It volunteers helped with set up and take down for SPA's 11th Annual Gala and Auction. The summer project involves "unveiling" a house in the East Central Neighborhood. (See page three article.) Watch for a flyer to be mailed out with more details.

The Doing-It committee is always looking for new projects to raise awareness about historic preservation in Spokane and Spokane County. When 20 or 30 energized folks show

up for three or four hours on a Saturday morning, it's equivalent to about two solid weeks of "man-hours." And civic-minded people who like to "get dirty" are invariably fun. If you have ideas for future projects please contact Lori Nicol at 509-624-5136.



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JAMES N. GLOVER MANSION

321 West Eighth Avenue

by Linda Yeoman

James Nettle Glover (1837-1921)

Correctly called the “Father of Spokane,” James Nettle Glover was one of the most prominent civic, business, mining, financial, and government leaders the city has ever had. For 48 years, Glover “grew” the town, beginning in 1873 when he first purchased land by the Spokane River. A few years later, he carefully became the sole owner of 160 acres of undeveloped prime real estate in the center of downtown Spokane. He began making plans for the city in which he built, owned, and operated a sawmill and a general store; operated as a forage agent for the Northern Pacific Railway; and helped incorporate, manage, and lead the First National Bank of Spokane. In 1879, he platted the first survey of the Spokane townsite and named the city’s principal streets. At different times, he served as city mayor, justice of the peace, and U. S. postmaster. Glover was a tall, large man, commanding attention wherever he went, and was said to be a man of his word who backed his promises with money. Glover died as a less-than-well-to-do city leader and will be remembered always as one of Spokane’s most prominent and prestigious pioneers.

Built in 1889, the Glover Mansion was one of Spokane architect Kirtland Cutter’s first major architectural commissions. The home is large with grandiose proportions and reflects historic precedents and stylistic influences from both Bavarian castle-like structures and British baronial manor houses. No other house in Spokane had been built with a design like the Glover Mansion.

Solidly situated on a steep hillside site, the Glover Mansion is a study in monumental cut granite stone and welcomes visitors to the recessed front entrance through a huge granite arch. Leaded-glass windows and false half-timbering in front-facing gables are reminiscent of 17th-century Medieval row houses built in England. Massive tall brick chimneys tell of roaring fires that once warmed the mansion. A solid oak front door opens into an oak-paneled “great hall,” an impressive room with an oak staircase, cathedral ceiling, second-floor galleries, and an opera house box where Glover and his guests could watch events taking place below.

The design for the wide arch at the exterior of the house is echoed in the great hall with multiple arches that lead to bedrooms and other rooms in the house. A romantic arch under the staircase encloses an intimate area with built-in bench seats. The house was built for James N. Glover, one of the “founding fathers” in Spokane. (See sidebar.)

The Glover Mansion is currently owned by Bob & Kim Adolfson, owners/proprietors of Glover Mansion Catering and Events, and serves as a venue for the Adolfson’s business, playing host to more than 250 events a year. The consummate caterer/events manager, Bob Adolfson was “born into the business” when he helped in his father’s restaurant in the Great Northern Railroad Depot and in his grandmother’s Spokane restaurant, called DuSault’s.

In honor of its prominent historical and architectural significance in Spokane, the Glover Mansion was listed in 1995 as a historic landmark on the Spokane, Washington State, and National Registers of Historic Places.

Kirtland Kelsey Cutter (1860-1939)

In his book, *Kirtland Cutter: Architect in the Land of Promise*, Henry Matthews wrote that “while many of his contemporaries have been relegated to the sidelines of history, Kirtland Cutter survives as a quintessential architect of his era.” In his designs, he artfully interwove historic European precedents with Arts & Crafts simplicity and high-style revivalism, which extolled exotic, artificial environments rich in imagery. “He was an avowed eclectic who saw no conflict in drawing inspiration from diverse traditions and adapting them to modern life.” Cutter was born in Ohio, studied at the Arts League of New York, traveled to Europe where he studied drawing, painting, and sculpture, and came to Spokane in 1887 to work for his uncle at the First National Bank. Drawn to architecture instead of banking, Cutter began designing homes and commercial buildings for his uncle’s wealthy friends. He practiced with fellow architect, J. C. Poetz, partnered with Karl G. Malmgren, and helped apprentice future prominent Spokane architects like Albert Held, Archibald Rigg, and G. A. Pehrson. Cutter’s designs with and without partners survive as some of Spokane’s most unique residences and buildings, including the Davenport Hotel, Spokane Steam Plant, Fairmont Cemetery Chapel, Humbird Mansion (612 W. Sumner), and the J. P. Graves House on Waikiki Road.



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SPA MISSION STATEMENT

Spokane Preservation Advocates is dedicated to preserving Spokane's historic buildings, neighborhoods, landscapes and character.

TWO-YEAR COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT SET TO BEGIN MAY 5TH

For more than 100 years, the Spokane County Courthouse has been the region's "castle by the river." With its beautiful spires, intricate brickwork and classically European design, the courthouse has been a landmark since it was completed in 1895. However, as with any building of historical significance, the wear-and-tear of time and daily use has seriously impacted the

courthouse. Fortunately, help is on the way, thanks to a grant from the State of Washington that was matched by the County Commissioners and an ambitious master plan to restore the courthouse to its former splendor.

The master plan was unveiled during a news advisory on Thursday, May 1st. Background information on the courthouse

and two-year renovation plan were available, along with tours of the tower.

For more information, please contact Public Information and Communications Manager Martha Lou Wheatley-Billeter at 509-477-7195 or 509-263-9385.