

RevitalizeWA 2011: Preservation and Main Street Conference in Walla Walla

INSIDE:

NEW MAIN STREET LOGO

The Washington State
Main Street Program
is debuting a beautiful
new logo

CONFERENCE DETAILS

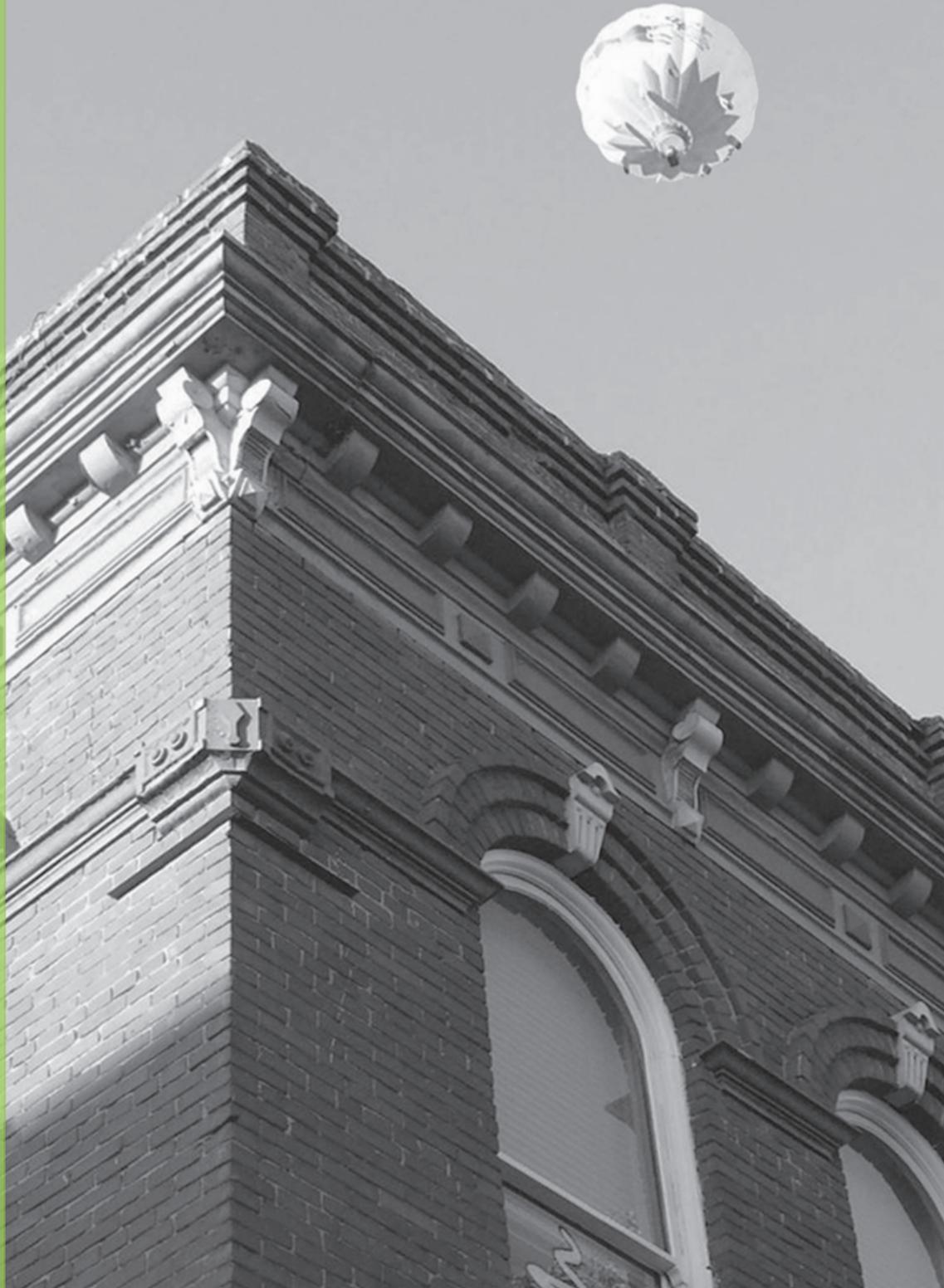
Look inside for
a preliminary
conference schedule,
information about our
keynote speaker, and
more!

TWO FOXES

A Fox on each side of
the state

PRESERVATION TRADES AND CONSULTANTS DIRECTORY

Announcing a new
online directory to
support preservation



YOUR TRUST IN ACTION

Revitalizing Washington

By Sarah Hansen, Washington State Main Street Coordinator



The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation and Washington's Main Street Program are thrilled to present RevitalizeWA, this year's preservation and Main Street conference. We are proud to be building upon the 24 successful years of the Downtown Revitalization Institute and grow the conference to feature an expanded program covering revitalization, economic development and historic preservation. With over 200 participants expected from across Washington and the Pacific Northwest, this will be one of the region's largest gatherings of preservation and revitalization professionals. We are excited about this year's program and look forward to seeing you in Walla Walla.

Where The historic Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center in beautiful Walla Walla. Don't miss this opportunity to hear and see Walla Walla's successful revitalization story and learn from one of Washington's most successful Main Street communities. There is more in Walla Walla than sweet onions and wine!

Who should attend? Washington's Main Street communities, preservationists, small business owners, chambers of commerce, "buy/shop local" advocates, city and regional planners, designers, historic homeowners, preservation consultants, environmentalists, elected officials, developers, contractors, craftsmen, heritage and cultural tourism professionals, community and economic development specialists, educators, students, architects, landscape architects and YOU.

Conference Program Want to find out more about the Main Street four-point approach or brush up on your

skills? Carolyn Honeycutt, Executive Director of Ellensburg Downtown Association and Timothy Dalton, Executive Director of Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership, will share their Main Street savvy at Wednesday's "Main Street 101" pre-conference workshop from 1:00-5:00pm.

Trying to figure out how the heck to use social media or GIS mapping? Need to reenergize your board and recruit more volunteers? Need inexpensive ideas to help promote your small business? Want help deciphering code and safety requirements before you jump into rehabilitating that historic building? You'll find the answers in Walla Walla! RevitalizeWA is an outstanding opportunity to learn through educational sessions, tours and networking receptions. We'll also be hosting a silent auction, the proceeds of which will be dedicated to the Washington Main Street Program.

Excellence on Main Awards You won't want to miss this year's Main



Washington State
MAIN STREET
PROGRAM

Washington's Main Street Program has a new logo! This new brand is the result of efforts to create a better visual identity for the program, representing Main Street communities across this diverse state. We are thrilled to debut the logo in time for our RevitalizeWA Conference and would like to thank all those who helped with its development. A special thanks goes to The Medium, the design firm in North Bend, who assisted us in creating an image that reflects Washington's rich cultural and natural heritage while focusing on our historic downtowns.

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Cover photo: A hot air balloon floats over the Beehive Building in downtown Walla Walla. Photo by Joe Drazan.



A view of the beautiful Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center, built in 1928, past the Whitehouse-Crawford water tank. Photo by Joe Drazan.

Street awards, Excellence On Main, presented at our Thursday evening reception. Grab a drink, some hors d'oeuvres and celebrate as we announce this year's outstanding award winners. To top off the evening, we'll be announcing Washington State's two newest Main Street communities!

Tours Join us Friday afternoon for an up-close look at revitalization in action in southeast Washington. We'll be touring heritage barns, Walla Walla's public art, successful adaptive use projects and the production facilities of Seven Hills Winery and Forgeron Cellars. Additionally, attendees can opt to cycle their way through the beautiful Walla Walla Valley on a self-guided ride-by barn tour.

Conference Registration Registration is open! Check out Brown Paper Tickets and search for "RevitalizeWA," go directly to: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/165934, or follow the registration link from our website conference page. Are there five or more individuals registering from your organization? Contact us for a special reduced registration code!

Lodging The room block for the conference at the Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center is FULL. For alternate lodging options, please visit our website, www.preservewa.org, or contact Tourism Walla Walla:

info@wallawalla.org
1.877.WWVISIT.

See next page for a preliminary RevitalizeWA Conference schedule!

Support RevitalizeWA

Interested in sponsoring the conference or donating to our silent auction? It's not too late! Visit our website or contact us for more information:

www.PreserveWA.org/RevitalizeWA.aspx
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Thank you to our conference sponsors as of April 13, 2011:

Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation

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A special thanks to The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the State of Washington for their generous grant support which will provide student and young preservationist scholarships for conference attendance.

Winemaker's Dinner

As a special event, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is hosting an exclusive Winemaker's Dinner on May 13, from 7:00pm - 10:00pm. This elegant evening will feature a menu of fresh, local food prepared by Olive Catering and will showcase Walla Walla's Sleight of Hand Cellars, recently named by Seattle Magazine as one of Washington's "next cult wineries." We are thrilled to have Trey Busch, winemaker and co-owner of Sleight of Hand Cellars, join us for what is sure to be a memorable evening. The dinner will be held in one of Walla Walla's beautiful, historic homes. Tickets cost \$150 and are VERY LIMITED, so please reserve your place for this amazing event as soon as possible.

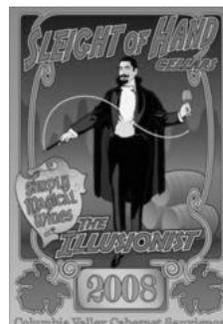




Photo by Rebekah Workman

Keynote speaker: Becky McCray

We are absolutely thrilled to welcome Becky McCray as our keynote speaker for RevitalizeWA!

Becky says that small businesses and small towns matter. She is a small town business owner with a retail store and a cattle ranch in Woods County, Oklahoma. Through her consulting firm, she helps small town governments and promotes entrepreneurship and tourism in small towns. Together with Sheila Scarborough, she co-founded Tourism Currents to teach tourism professionals new ways of marketing their destination.

As a small town business owner, cattle ranch owner and business consultant, Becky doesn't just talk about business, entrepreneurship, tourism and rural issues; she lives them. Becky has spoken at some 100 events, with audiences ranging from 10 to 500, including the 140 Characters Conference: London and the International Economic Development Council Conference.

Becky has been featured in *The New York Times*, *BusinessWeek*, and *Entrepreneur Magazine*. She publishes the popular website, *Small Biz Survival* (www.smallbizsurvival.com), and she is the author of *20 Small Business Ideas for Small Towns*, and *Shop Local Campaigns for Small Towns* – all of this from her home base in Hopeton, Oklahoma, a community of fewer than 30 people.

Becky will be speaking Thursday morning, May 12th, at our Opening Plenary – don't miss it!

2011 RevitalizeWA Preliminary Conference Schedule

Wednesday, May 11

- 12:00 pm **Registration**
- 1:00 - 5:00 pm **Pre-Conference Workshop** Main Street 101
- 5:30 pm **Welcoming Reception** sponsored by **Clark Design Group**, silent auction opens

Thursday, May 12

- 7:30 am **Registration & Coffee**
- 8:30 am **Opening Plenary** Becky McCray
- 10:00 am **Coffee Break** sponsored by **Baker Boyer Bank & Vern Studer Agency: Farmers Insurance**
- 10:30 am **Session One**
 - Using GIS to Support Preservation & Downtown Revitalization
 - Interpreting Rural Resources
 - Main Street Success Stories
- 12:00 pm **Lunch on own**
- 1:30 pm **Session Two**
 - Current Issues & Responses to Historic Wood Window Restoration
 - Preservation & Sustainable Tourism: Successful Place-based Planning
 - Finding Your Local Social Media Champions
 - Downtown Planning Short Course: Part I
- 3:00 pm **Coffee Break** sponsored by **Site Story & Washington State Department of Commerce**
- 3:30 pm **Session Three**
 - 50/50: 50 Ideas for Retailers for under \$50
 - Cultural Resource Management: The Fort Walla Walla Model
 - Rural Community Design: Engaging Washington's Universities in Community Revitalization
 - Downtown Planning Short Course: Part II
- 5:00 pm **Sessions conclude**
- 6:00 pm **Excellence On Main Reception** sponsored by **SHKS Architects & Swenson Say Fagét**
- 7:30 pm **Silent auction closes**

Friday, May 13

- 8:00 am **Coffee**
- 8:30 am **Session Four**
 - Façade Maintenance
 - Preservation Trades Education
 - Revitalizing Neighborhood Business Districts
- 10:00 am **Coffee Break** sponsored by **RAFN Company & Northwest Anthropology**
- 10:30 am **Session Five**
 - Redeveloping Historic Buildings
 - Engaging Your Nonprofit Board
 - SMART Business: Encouraging Sustainability in your Business Community
- 12:00 pm **Sessions conclude**, lunch on own
- 1:30 pm **Tours**
 - Heritage Barns Bus Tour, sponsored by **Tourism Walla Walla**
 - Public Art Walking Tour
 - Adaptive Use of Walla Walla's Historic Resources Walking Tour
 - Wine Production: Seven Hills Winery and Forgeron Cellars Walking Tour
 - Fort Walla Walla & the Veteran's Administration Campus Trolley Tour
 - Self-guided Bike Tour
- 7:00 **Winemaker's Dinner**

(AIA & AICP Credits Available for some sessions)

Thorp Mill: A window into Washington's industrial past

By Tanner Dotzauer

On the east side of Snoqualmie Pass tucked in the foothills of the Cascade Range is the little agricultural town of Thorp. Residing on a quiet rural highway just two minutes off Interstate 90, Thorp was once a thriving railroad town. Prior to the arrival of the railroad, the origins of Thorp stemmed from a small rural industrial site called Oren. At the center of the manufacturing activity in Oren were two mills. First was a lumber mill, built in 1879, and the second was a flour mill, constructed two years later in 1881. Today, known as the Thorp Mill, the flour mill still remains complete with its original machinery as a reminder of the hundreds of small mills that would have been found through out Washington State at the end of the 19th century.

Built as the North Star Mill by the partnership of Oren Hutchinson and Victor Gustave Huhn, the Thorp Mill began as a simple burr mill. In a burr mill, grain is poured through the center of two tightly fitted stones, and as the two stones turn, the grain is ground down and moved out to the edges as finished feed or flour. The North Star Mill was part of a larger rural industrial site that took shape near the mill in the early to late 1880s. Two years before the North Star flour mill was constructed, a young man named James Mills had walked over Snoqualmie Pass from Seattle and purchased land near the Yakima River where he could build a sawmill. It was James Mills who organized the digging of the millrace that would divert water out of the Yakima and

provide power for both the lumber mill and the flour mill. The two mills each used a separate turbine to turn the large leather belts that drove their equipment. The heavy steel turbine for the flour mill was transported 150 miles by wagon from The Dalles, Oregon to the Thorp Mill.

By the turn of the twentieth century, the Thorp Mill had been modernized and expanded to accommodate the new steel roller technology. Steel roller mills were far more efficient but also drastically more technologically demanding. Switching to a roller system meant the Thorp Mill had to add fifteen new interconnected machines, and have the roof raised to accommodate the process. The new systems allowed the small mill not

continued on page 14



Thorp Mill exterior. Photo by Jeff Pease.

Downtown Walla Walla: 20 years of revitalization

By Jennifer Northam, Downtown Walla Walla Foundation

I grew up in the suburbs of Seattle, and I was a typical suburban kid - my neighborhood was built in a month in the '70s, weekends were spent at the mall, and history was a required class worth nothing more than dry facts to memorize. I came to Walla Walla in 1987 to attend Whitman College with no idea that it was one of the oldest cities in the Northwest.

As a student I worked for an attorney on the 6th floor of the Baker Boyer Bank building, built in 1911. I walked from campus through downtown to work three times each week and fell in love with downtown Walla Walla. I loved the small shops and their owners; turn-of-the-century architecture from the sidewalk; the unique charm that goes hand-in-hand with history. I also saw the deterioration and neglect up close, and watched two of three anchor department stores leave for the newly-constructed mall.

By the time I graduated from Whitman in 1991, I found my "inner small

town girl" and stayed in Walla Walla. I was hired as Program Assistant for the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation and became a Main Street convert. After three years, my husband and I left for grad school, but we couldn't stay away, moved back to Walla Walla to raise our family. Following several years as a volunteer, I was hired as interim manager and eventually moved into my current position as Events & PR Manager.

I have the unique perspective of being involved in the early days of Walla Walla's downtown revitalization, as well as working with the incredible success that has come from those efforts.

Walla Walla is a unique and wonderful town. Somewhat secluded in the southeastern corner of the state, it has gained national recognition for excellent wines, a rich history, and an award-winning downtown, but this hasn't always been the case.

During the late 1980s, downtown Walla Walla followed the unfortunate nation-

wide trend of decline. The Liberty Theater stood empty and dirty; a former department store became an ill-advised mini-mall, then a vacant lot. Two major retail anchors departed for a new mall at the edge of town.

A group of 15 business owners, realtors, property owners and concerned citizens weren't willing to let downtown continue the slide to ghost town status. Adopting the Main Street model created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, a new organization was formed, now called the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation. Following the Main Street Four Point Approach®, a Board of Directors and committees were established.

Small changes came first - colorful banners featuring a wheat stalk appeared on Main Street. Sixties-era concrete planters were filled with flowers. Free weekly concerts were offered on the plaza at the heart of downtown. A façade restoration loan program was set up, granting low-interest loans to



Main Street in downtown Walla Walla. Photo by J. Franklin Willis.

property owners willing to fix up their buildings.

A streetscape improvement project in 1992 resulted in new sidewalks, light-posts and benches, as well as pedestrian-friendly intersections and over 100 trees. Construction wrapped just before winter hit, and set off a wonderful domino effect.

Several significant properties were painstakingly restored, including the Liberty Theater and the Reynolds-Day Building, site of the state's first Constitutional Convention. An incredibly dedicated Farmers Market Committee started with 5 trucks and grew the market to a thriving scene of commerce and social action twice every weekend, May to October. As the wine industry began to take root, more tasting rooms appeared on Main Street. And retailers who had fled downtown for the new mall began to return.

Downtown Walla Walla is now home to 20+ wine tasting rooms, excellent restaurants with sidewalk dining, charming gift shops and a thriving live music scene. The 100+ street trees are adorned with white lights that glow every night, all year long. The downtown is host to an annual food & wine festival, Feast Walla Walla; a summer-long concert series every Saturday and Sunday from June through August; a classic car show, Wheelin' Walla Walla Weekend; and a holiday Parade of Lights. The Powerhouse Theater, home to an annual Shakespeare Festival, will open downtown this May in a historic property.

Sunset Magazine has named us the West's best downtown, as well as a prime destination for foodies. *Money* magazine listed Walla Walla as one of the best places to retire, specifically mentioning the bustling and picturesque downtown. And in 2001, Walla Walla received the National Main Street Center's Great American Main Street Award. Walla Walla is thrilled to host RevitalizeWA, the Statewide Preservation and Main Street Conference in May, and have the chance to show over 20 years of revitalization.



Classic cars parked in front of the Reynolds-Day Building, Paine Building, and Baker Building in downtown Walla Walla. Photo by Joe Drazan.



A fountain in the Baker-Boyer Plaza at 3rd & Main Streets which was site of the old Stencil Building, razed in 1968. Photo by Joe Drazan.

Accolades for Spokane's tremendous Fox Theater

By Kristen Griffin and Betsy Godlewski

Spokane's Art Deco treasure, the Fox Theater, was among the National Trust's 2010 National Preservation Honor Award Winners recognized at the Trust's annual Preservation Conference in Austin, Texas this past October.

The Fox was designed by noted Seattle architect Robert Reamer with interiors by Anthony Heinsbergen, a prominent designer who created a storybook fantasyland. Murals give the illusion of moving through an undersea world into a forest canopy of dense foliage, all illuminated by the theater's most significant feature: a 350-light, 60-foot-wide sunburst in the ceiling above the stage. Built during the Great Depression at a cost of \$1 million, the theater opened in 1931 to a crowd of over 30,000 who thronged the streets to see Hollywood celebrities open the theater. At 2,300 seats, it was the largest theater in Spokane, and a venue for both live stage performances and the newest Hollywood invention: talking pictures.

For more than four decades, the Fox held its own as a first-run movie house in a bustling downtown entertainment and shopping district. As suburban malls and multiplexes began to lure moviegoers away from downtown, however, the theater began a period of decline. By 2000, the Fox was slated for demolition to make way for a parking lot.

A life-long Spokane citizen, Myrtle Woldson, provided a \$3 million gift to jumpstart the theater's restoration. Grants from Save America's Treasures, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Trust launched a \$31 million capital campaign, which included historic tax credits and New Markets Tax Credits (the first use of the NMTC in Spokane).

Reopened in 2007 after a meticulous restoration, the Fox is today a multi-use performing arts facility and the home of the Spokane Symphony Orchestra. The painstaking project included the removal of years of dirt, grime and popcorn grease and restor-

ing the theater's original murals, marquees, light fixtures and interior finishes.

"The Fox Theater is a community treasure and is a key part of the ongoing economic revitalization of Spokane's historic downtown," said Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "Even when the Fox's stage is bare, the building's murals, plasterwork and light fixtures put on a show worthy of a standing ovation."



Spokane's Fox Theater in the 1930s.



The beautifully restored sunburst light fixture in the Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox.

Restoration on the move at Centralia's Fox Theatre

By Scott White, President, Historic Fox Theatre Restorations



The Fox Theatre in downtown Centralia. Photo courtesy of Historic Fox Theatre Restorations.



The corner of the Fox Theatre, showing the restored storefront windows. Photo courtesy of Historic Fox Theatre Restorations.



Interior, with dramatic art deco features. Photo courtesy of Historic Fox Theatre Restorations.

Thanks to the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation and the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund, the Fox Theatre in historic downtown Centralia has completed its first of many restoration projects. The City of Centralia chose the restoration of the art deco Fox Theatre as its project for the 2010 Valerie Sivinski grant, and working in conjunction with local nonprofit Historic Fox Theatre Restorations, Centralia received the \$2,000 grant to restore the corner storefront windows and door at the busy South Tower Avenue and Locust Street intersection.

The funding to restore the storefront began with generous contributions from the community and was completed thanks to the talents of carpenter Trent Majors. Trent was able to save and restore the south facing transom windows and recreate the large picture window and floor to ceiling east facing windows as well. Countless coats of paint were removed from the original mahogany door while the brass kick plate was vigorously buffed. Trent also searched tirelessly and finally found just the right brass door accessories to maintain the original art deco design. Glass was generously donated and installed by Mike Garland and Eubanks Glass while Lincoln Creek Lumber made sure the project had access to affordable materials.

Finally the \$2,000 reimbursement from the Valerie Sivinski Fund made it possible to stay on budget with the project so the City and the Fox can move onto their next big project: recreating the theatre's original art deco marquee and blade sign. The City of Centralia and Historic Fox Theatre Restorations remain committed to the full restoration of the Fox to its 1930s grandeur while upgrading the capabilities of the 1,200 seat theatre to serve as a modern performing arts center and community gathering space for Southwest Washington.

To learn more, please visit www.centraliafoxtheatre.com

A new roof for the Carpenter House Museum

By Charlene Kauzlarich, Vice President, Northern Kittitas County Historical Society

In spring 2009, the Northern Kittitas County Historical Society (NKCHS) in Cle Elum was surprised to learn the "50-year roof" on the historic Carpenter House Museum, for which they had scrimped and saved, was disintegrating. The roofing tiles were installed in 1998 and came with one of the strongest warranties available for product durability and performance, but only eleven years later the tiles were literally breaking apart and falling off the building. Faced with the threat of losing the mansion, the NKCHS's vice president, Charlene Kauzlarich, immediately contacted the manufacturer for help in repairing the roof and was shocked to discover the company had gone bankrupt. On top of this discouraging news, a late spring rainstorm sent the museum's occupants, the High Country Artists, scrambling to find pots to catch the rain pouring into the first-floor office. The inside office walls were drenched and plaster was falling from the second floor master bathroom and closet.

Realizing that no help was forthcoming from the so-called 50-year warranty and that the Carpenter House would not survive the next fall's

rainy season, Kauzlarich undertook an immediate fund-raising and publicity campaign. Requests for donations were mailed, news stories written, and a yard sale held in August 2009. These efforts generated enough funds to pay for a temporary patch job on the roof, but it was clear the whole roof would need to be completely replaced prior to the fall 2010 rainy season.

The NKCHS set a goal to raise enough funds by April and have the new roof installed by September 2010. They applied for grants, held a bake sale, and the week before Christmas 2009, the Puget Sound Energy Foundation delivered the first approved grant. More grant funding followed in early 2010 from the BNSF Foundation and the Kittitas County Historical Records Fund. Finally, in April, Kris Bassett, Chair of the Washington Trust's Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund, traveled to Cle Elum to tour the Carpenter House and meet with the Historical Society Board of Directors. Bassett was pleased to offer the final grant amount needed, \$1,500, to meet NKCHS's goal for roof repairs.

All Weather Shield of Washington submitted the winning bid to re-roof the Carpenter House, and last July, they installed a composition-style asphalt shingled roof. James Russom, co-owner of All Weather Shield, used to live behind the Carpenter House when he was a teenager. He was especially interested in taking on the roofing job, as he had scrubbed floors for Mrs. Carpenter many years ago, and was quite dismayed to hear of the recent roof problems.

The Historical Society not only met their goal of having a new roof installed by fall 2010, but also took on the chore of replacing the front steps on the Carpenter House. Through donations and a small grant from the Cle Elum Historic Preservation Commission, they contracted with Ron Siegel Custom Construction to tear off the old and rotting steps and replace them with new stringers and steps.

On September 16, 2010, Kris Bassett, Chair of the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund, traveled to Cle Elum and the Carpenter House Museum to present a 2010 grant award certificate to the Board of the North Kittitas County Historical Society. The presentation was made in recognition of the completion of the grant-funded projects on the historic home. The beautiful Carpenter House Museum's new roof and front steps insure that this historic mansion will remain open for many years to come.

When constructed in 1914, this large three-story house was built with lumber provided by a local mill using a Sears design, which was unique to the Cle Elum area both for its size and beautiful architecture. The Carpenter family was very prominent in the Upper Kittitas County for several decades. In 1989, their last living descendant donated the home and all of its original furnishings to the NKCHS for the express purpose of creating a museum. Since that time, the home, built by banker and Cle Elum Mayor



The Carpenter House Museum in Cle Elum is open for weekend tours.



Kris Bassett, Chair of the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund, presents a 2010 grant award certificate to Board Vice President Charlene Kauzlarich and Board President, Bonnie Hawk.

Frank Carpenter, has given the public a glimpse into the early life of the well-to-do family during the heyday of the coal mining era of Cle Elum and Roslyn. In addition, displays of costumes represent the many nationalities who contributed to the mining community.

Located at 302 W. 3rd St., the Carpenter House Museum is open for tours Fridays through Sundays, noon to 4:00pm. The Museum also serves as an art gallery for the local High Country Artists, who provide docent and caretaking services for the museum. Over 1,000 people annually visit the museum, and the house also hosts monthly artists' meetings, exhibits and workshops available to the public, writer's group meetings, the annual community Pioneer Days Queens Tea, student art shows, and the Fresh Air Artists Festival.

More information on the Carpenter House can be found online at www.nkcmuseums.org.



All Weather Shield of Washington's co-owner, Robert MacLean and his assistant, Brandon, install new roofing on the Carpenter House Museum.

2011 Valerie Sivinski Grant Funds Awarded

The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation received another record-breaking 25 applications for grant funding in 2011 through the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund. Requests totaled nearly \$50,000 in funds! From boats to buildings, from assessments to planning, the Trust's Preservation Committee reviewed a diverse and interesting slate of applications. This list truly reflected the need for preservation in many arenas! As a result, 9 applications were selected for funding a record amount of \$10,000. The recipients are:

- **The City of Ellensburg** – \$2,000 to help with roof repairs to the Northern Pacific Railway Passenger Depot.
- **The City of Hoquiam** – \$1,500 to assist with rehabilitation of the former Hoquiam Senior Center Building.
- **Ezra Meeker Historical Society, Puyallup** – \$2,000 to replace deteriorated window frames in the dining room of the Meeker Mansion.
- **Fort Nisqually Foundation** – \$500 to develop architectural drawings for the preservation of the 1850 Fort Nisqually Granary.
- **Gig Harbor Boat Shop** – \$1,000 to help restore the hull of Thunderbird #2, a plywood-constructed sailing vessel.
- **Historical Architectural Development Corp., Walla Walla** – \$1,000 to rehabilitate west and south facing windows on the historic Kirkman House in Walla Walla.
- **Knappton Cove Heritage Center, Knappton** – \$1,000 to replace porches and steps on the US Columbia River Quarantine Station Hospital.
- **Maryhill Museum of Art** – \$500 to help fund an assessment of stucco deterioration and water penetration at the Maryhill Museum.
- **Northwest Schooner Society** – \$500 to purchase materials associated with rebuilding the dock facility at the Burrows Island Light Station.

The Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund program began in 1997 and continues to award grant funding up to \$2,000 to organizations undertaking historic preservation projects around our state. Since its establishment, the fund has provided over \$67,000 in grant assistance to 79 projects statewide. To learn more about the program and how you can help support our work, visit the Trust's website at www.preservewa.org.



Washington Trust Board members and staff visit the Thunderbird #2 at the Eddon Boatyard in Gig Harbor.

Rallying for preservation as a vital economic tool

By Jennifer Meisner, Executive Director

One of the Washington Trust's most important activities is advocating for preservation funding and program support at the National level. We strive to keep historic preservation on the minds of our elected officials throughout the year, but our efforts are concentrated each spring as we participate in National Preservation Advocacy Week. Every year, the Trust raises scholarship funding to make it possible for preservation enthusiasts from around the state to make the trip as part of our Washington State delegation.

Thanks to the generosity of preservation champion, Kevin Daniels of Nitze-Stagen & Co., Inc. and Daniels Development Co., the Trust assembled a group of 9 knowledgeable and articulate preservation enthusiasts from around the state in early March to join our partners Preservation Action, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and statewide preservation advocacy organizations from across the country in Washington DC to spend one full day in advocacy training and one

full day in meetings on Capitol Hill. This year, our group was made up of seasoned advocacy veterans Sonya Quitslund, heritage barn owner on Bainbridge Island, Mary Rossi with Applied Preservation Technology in Bellingham, and Valerie Steel, with Historic Everett in Everett; first time participants included Dan Leach of Mountlake Terrace and the Center for Wooden Boats in Seattle, Mark Preiss of Coupeville and the Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, and Paul Mann, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation Board President and the National Trust for Historic Preservation Board of Advisors from Spokane. This well-balanced group was rounded off with Washington Trust staffers Jennifer Meisner, Cathy Wickwire, and Chris Moore. Although she wasn't able to make the trip back with us, Special Projects staffer Jennifer Mallinger played a crucial role in our success by scheduling all of our appointments, a task that requires persistence, patience and dogged determination. Fortunately, Jen has perfected her skills over the three years

that she has done this for us, and we know that we can count on her to fill our meeting matrix by the time we leave for DC.

This year, we delivered a carefully crafted message that let our Senators and Representatives know that we are well aware of the extreme budget challenges our nation currently faces, but we also know that preservation puts people to work, stimulates local economies, and generates a major return on the federal government's investment in our programs. For that reason, we asked each member of Washington's Congressional delegation to provide \$70 million for the Historic Preservation Fund in FY2012, including \$50 million for State Historic Preservation Offices, \$11 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, and \$9 million for the Save America's Treasures and Preservation America grant programs combined. We clearly articulated that this request represents 10% less than the combined funding for these programs in FY2008.

We also asked our Members to support the retooled Community Restoration and Revitalization Act when it is introduced. The proposed changes to this legislation will make the historic tax credit program more accessible to smaller projects and thus promote reinvestment in Main Street and rural communities, increase the credit for achieving energy efficiency improvements, and establish a credit for historic homeowners that will encourage private investment in owner-occupied residences in historic districts and increase the tax base in struggling communities statewide. The Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit is a major catalyst for rehabilitation projects in communities throughout Washington State that leverage millions of private investment dollars each year.

A recent study has shown that the Historic Tax Credit is an efficient job



From left to right, Mark Preiss, Dan Leach, Jennifer Meisner, Congressman Jim McDermott of the seventh congressional district, Valerie Steele, and Chris Moore at Lobby Day 2011.

creator — rehabilitation investments have generated about 1.8 million new jobs nationwide since 1976 and 58,800 in 2008 alone. In 2010, \$3.42 billion was invested in 951 new rehabilitation projects. As a result, 41,641 jobs were created, and 13,273 housing units were created or renovated, 5,514 of which were low and moderate income housing. Collectively, these historic preservation programs are the primary drivers of economic development in hundreds of communities by generating jobs, revitalizing neighborhoods and downtowns, and promoting sustainability by re-using and greening historic buildings, as well as creating affordable housing.

Of course, we thanked our Members for the opportunity to meet and share local examples of the tangible benefits of historic preservation — putting local craftsmen and laborers to work, bringing new life to abandoned and underutilized buildings, and lever-



aging millions of dollars in private reinvestment. If you would like more detailed information on any of these advocacy issues, please visit Preservation Action's website at www.preservationaction.org. We are always delighted to welcome first time advocates and welcome

back past participants, so if you are interested in learning more about the Trust's advocacy efforts at the National level or potentially making the trip with us next year, please email us at info@preservewa.org so we can add you to our Lobby Day email group!

Where in the WA is your Trust?

It's taken us more than a year to come up with a new photo for this popular feature, but we finally have a good one that may prove difficult, if not impossible, to identify! For this challenge, we have a photo of Michael Houser of the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) posed by one of our state's more unusual and hard to reach landmarks.

Michael, the State Architectural Historian, is in charge of administering the National Register of Historic Places, the Washington Heritage Register, and the Heritage Barn Register in addition to staffing the Governor's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, which reviews listings for these registers. Michael can help you assess the importance of your historic property and its potential eligibility for register listing and provide guidance in the completion of register nominations. For information and nomination forms please visit DAHP's website: www.dahp.wa.gov.

Email us at info@preservewa.org with the location pictured in the photo. If you have your own photo of the location, send that to us too. We also welcome images of our readers taken in their favorite places around our beautiful state. Good luck!



Announcing the Washington Trust Preservation Trades and Consultants Directory!

The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation consistently receives requests for recommendations on contractors, architects, craftsmen, consultants, and all types of preservation trades people. Until recently, we have routinely directed enquiries to the lists maintained by the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). Unfortunately, DAHP is no longer able to host the list and has permanently removed it from their website. Instead of losing such an important resource for the preservation community, the Washington Trust will be taking on the management of our own statewide "Preservation Trades

and Consultants Directory," which will be available as a downloadable document on our new website, www.preservewa.org.

Listing your business or organization is an effective, low-cost way to connect with hundreds of people actively looking for preservation goods and services. Because we are a non-profit organization with limited staff and resources, we are offering this service for a nominal annual fee of \$120, which goes directly to supporting and maintaining this online preservation resource. The following contact information will be included with every directory listing: company name, con-

tact name, mailing address, phone number, email address and website address. In addition, the listing will also feature your company logo and a brief description of your work and awards.

For more information, or an application form, please contact Membership and Events Coordinator, Kelly Hufty, at khuffy@preservewa.org, or call 206.624.9449. You may also download the form on our website. The Preservation Trades and Consultants Directory will be posted on our website by July 1, 2011. Deadline for this year's submissions is June 1, 2011.

continued from page 5

only to provide enough flour for the needs of the local residents but also to ship flour to markets miles away. The Thorp Mill is known to have shipped flour throughout the county and as far away as Seattle and Yakima. The Thorp Grist Mill ran almost uninterrupted between 1881 and 1946. By the end of the season in 1946, the mill and the machinery had started to show its age, and the last miller, Walter Leonard, closed its doors.

The Thorp Mill sat shuttered for over forty years with a series of owners acting as stewards of the old building. In 1977, it was placed on the National Historic Register by owners Ken and Lillian Wilson. It would be another decade before a group of local citizens took on the immense task of restoring the old mill and opening it to the public. In October of 1987, the Thorp Mill Town Historic Preservation Society (TMTHPS) was formed and restoration efforts began on the mill.

Opened to the public in the summer of 1991, the Thorp Mill is an exquisite example of frontier industrialization. With its operable turbine and three floors of original 19th century milling machinery, few historic tours offer

such a complete immersion into Washington State's proud agricultural past.

Today the Thorp Grist Mill, along with the former site of the lumber mill, are owned and operated by the non-profit organization Thorp Mill Town Historic Preservation Society. A series of interpretive signs on the grounds of the mill site allow for an enjoyable self-guided tour year round. Guided tours of the interior of the mill are available throughout the summer season along with demonstrations of the mill's original turbine. The Thorp Mill is truly one of the gems of Washington State's rural industrial history.

For more information on the Thorp Mill and the Thorp Mill Town Historic Preservation Society including directions and operating hours please call the mill at 509.964.9640 or visit them online at www.thorp.org.



Thorp Mill's first steel roller. Photo courtesy of Tanner Dotzauer.

THANKS TO YOU

Only through membership dues and contributions is the Washington Trust able to accomplish our mission to help make local historic preservation work and build an ethic that preserves Washington's historic places through advocacy, education, collaboration and stewardship.

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The Washington Trust's Preservation Circle recognizes annual donors at the \$1,000 level and above. We extend our thanks to the members of our Preservation Circle for their generous support.

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