

The Lake Oswego Preservation Society is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation founded in 2011.

Our mission is to support Lake Oswego's historic fabric through advocacy and education.

Officers:

Marylou Colver, President

Pat Snider, Secretary

Jack Walsdorf, Treasurer

Directors:

Scott Howard

Bonnie Kroft

Emogene Waggoner



Preservation Society

Thanks to the sponsorship of the Lake Oswego Corporation, a host of volunteer boat owners, refreshments generously provided by Nicoletta's Table, and the "shore crew," a sell-out crowd of 100 people enjoyed the second annual "Classic Houses and History Boat Tour on Oswego Lake" on Saturday, September 7th. The two-hour tour provides a fun and unique opportunity to learn about the architects and original owners of 50 historic homes and sites on the shores of Oswego Lake. Comments from passengers included: "Congratulations on such a fantastic boat tour! I had a wonderful time and it looked like that was the unanimous reaction of all who participated. It was a terrific tour which we will long remember."

"You did an awesome job and we are so grateful to have a new perspective on our home town. What a great city to live in." "Thank you for all of your superb homework and excursion on Oswego Lake. Just being on the water brings me such joy and serenity plus the added knowledge made the day grand!"



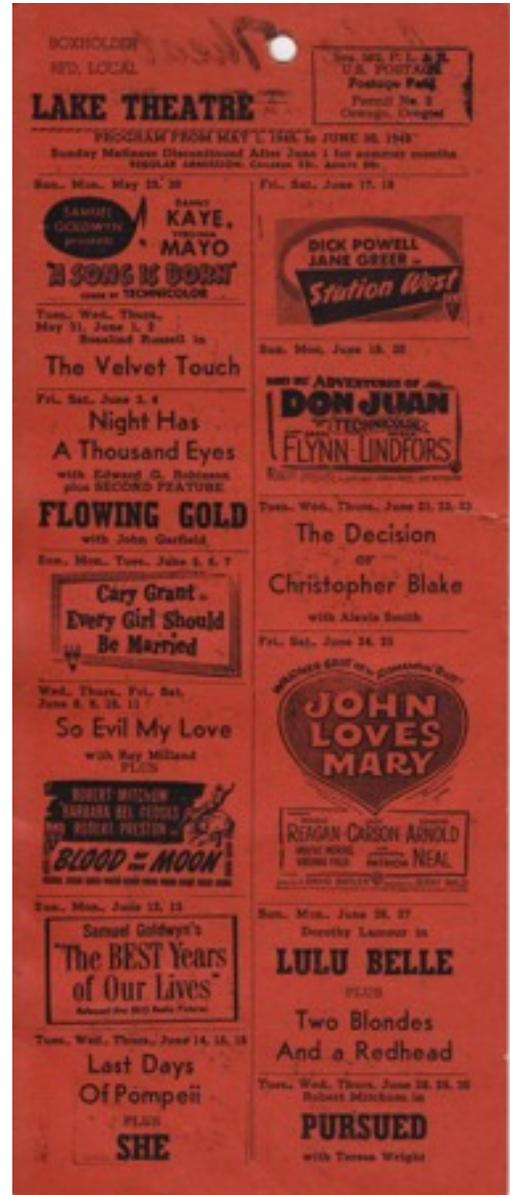
Boat tour guides from left to right: Holly Rodway, Bonnie Kroft, Marylou Colver, Bill Baars, Pam Hayden, Nancy Headlee, and Bridget Smith. Tour guide Marilyn Katcher is not pictured. Photo courtesy of Susanna Kuo.

If you would like to put your name on the notification list for next year's tour, please email your request to us. Tickets typically go on sale in late July and the tour is held on the Saturday after Labor Day. Society members are offered an opportunity to purchase tickets at a slight discount and before they go on sale to the general public.

"We see a future in our past."

Quote of the Quarter: "How will we know it's us without our past." John Steinbeck

New Addition to the Collection



The front and back of a Lake Theatre program for May 1, 1949 to June 30, 1949. This piece of ephemera was found inside the wall of a home during a remodeling project.

Satan Was a Blonde*

One of Richard Sundeleaf's architectural renderings for the Lake Theatre shows two films on the marquee: Satan Was a Blonde and March of Time. It appears that these film titles were fictitious. The theatre actually opened in 1940 with Another Thin Man starring William Powell and Myrna Loy in the feature film. Admission was 25 cents.

The intent to build an English Cottage style theatre was initiated in 1930 and architect J. W. DeYoung's architectural rendering was

published in the newspaper. DeYoung also designed Portland's Paramount Theatre and he did the complete set of working drawings for the Hollywood Theatre although the latter was not built from these in the end. The final Sundeleaf design is very similar to DeYoung's conceptual drawing. The Great Depression may have interfered with the original plans.

During World War II the Lake Theatre screenings included many war films such as Yank on the Burma Road and The Wife Takes a Flyer. After the war, Joan Fewless

Quigley recalled, "The Lake Theater in Oswego beckoned with Esther Williams movies and other 1945 assorted attractions and many of us young people would go to the movies on Sunday afternoons." Three businesses opened in conjunction with the theatre: Ireland's on the Lake restaurant, Clever Cleaners, and the Theatre Ice Cream Store.

* This article is excerpted from *Lake Oswego Vignettes* by Marylou Colver published in 2012 by The History Press of Charleston, South Carolina.

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If you use social media, please "Like" the Lake Oswego Preservation Society's facebook page

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Lake-Oswego-Preservation-Society/231444816876091>

Advocacy Corner

Carman House

The Carman House at 3811 Carman Drive was built circa 1855 before Abraham Lincoln became the 16th president of the United States and it's the last house in Lake Oswego that can make this claim. It's the only Donation Land Claim era structure left in Lake Oswego and to destroy this risks destroying the sense of who we are and where we came from. Waters Carman was a witness who signed A. A. Durham's Donation Land Claim. This was the legal document that essentially founded Oswego. The house in which Carman lived is the last physical link to our pioneer roots. Severing this connection would be a tremendous blow to the history of our community.

The applicant is attempting to remove the landmark designation based on Oregon statute SB588. If successful, the house will be demolished and the 1.25 acre parcel will be developed. The next hearing is on October 9th at 7:00 at City Hall.

If you care about this house and want to join the Society's spear-heading effort to save it, we are seeking

donations, large and small, which will be earmarked specifically for this purpose. Our legal expenditures so far have exceeded \$2,500 and there is a chance that this decision may be appealed to City Council and beyond, which would result in our incurring additional legal fees. Donations to our legal fund are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. The Society is also an Oregon Cultural Trust partner so a matching donation to the Trust may be claimed as a tax credit. For more information, please visit the "Donate" page of our website or you may make a donation through GoFundMe at: <http://www.gofundme.com/4jucce>.



The oldest remaining house in Lake Oswego, the Carman House. Photo courtesy of the Lake Oswego Public Library.

Wizer's Oswego Food Center

The following is an excerpt from the Society's "Citizen's View" comments published in the *Lake Oswego Review* on September 5, 2013.

The Wizer's building [at 330 First Street] has been a part of the fabric of downtown Lake Oswego and a part of the community's collective memory for 53 years. In 1960, the year the city's name was changed from "Oswego" to "Lake Oswego," the Oregonian announced the grand opening of a new million-dollar shopping center. The Wizer's Oswego Food Center was the city's first covered shopping mall.

Reduce, reuse, recycle applies to buildings as well as to bottles and cans. There is a focus on sustainability in the community, but it misses the mark by not including our largest objects -- buildings. Once the interrelationship among economic development, sustainability, and historic preservation is understood, it becomes clear that the most sustainable choice is to adapt this mid-century building to a new use. Let's not let a landfill be a final resting place for this unique structure.

Adapting the existing building or even incorporating some of Richard Sundeleaf's design in a new structure would be a win-win approach. It would honor the architect's legacy, it would be a more sustainable choice, and it would keep diversity in our downtown buildings. Cities are not built at one time; they are and should be an eclectic mix of styles and ages. This diversity plays an important part in making a community unique and uniqueness is key for attracting residents and visitors alike.

Willamette Falls Heritage Area

The Society is an official partner of the Willamette Falls Heritage Area Coalition (WFHAC). The WFHAC's mission is to seek to protect, enhance and share the unique cultural heritage of the Willamette Falls region encompassing the significant heritage sites in West Linn, Oregon City, Lake Oswego, and Clackamas County. Heritage areas are uniquely situated to help achieve the balance between economic development and the conservation of significant historic, natural, and cultural resources.

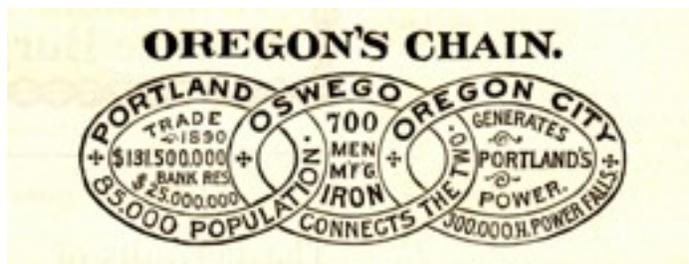
A major goal of the WFHAC is obtaining federal designation as a National Heritage Area, the first in the Pacific Northwest, and state designation as an Oregon Heritage Area. Beginning its work in 2006, the Coalition is most importantly a partnership of many public, private, and nonprofit organizations that share a common passion for the industrial history centered in the Willamette Falls region, its heritage, and the experiences of visitors from near and far.

Lake Oswego's iron industry and the seven sites along the Oswego Iron Heritage Trail (<http://www.ci.oswego.or.us/parksrec/oswego-iron-heritage-trail>) are the focus of the city's inclusion in this effort. The Trail is a route that links the sites associated with Oregon's pioneer iron industry. With the only remaining blast



furnace west of the Rockies as the centerpiece, interpretive signs at each site give a glimpse of mining and iron making in nineteenth century Oswego through the eyes of the workers. The most recent version of the feasibility study may be found at: http://wfheritage.org/feasibility_study.pdf.

Resolution 13-52 passed unanimously by the Lake Oswego City Council on September 24th officially makes the City a partner in this effort.



A Borthwick, Batty & Co. Oswego real estate ad from a February 1891 issue of *Demorest's Family Magazine*. Image courtesy of the Lake Oswego Preservation Society.

Calendar of Events

October 5-6 Lock Fest and Willamette Falls Festival

Look for the Society's booth at this two-day celebration. Lock Fest hours on Saturday are 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM and on Sunday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the west end of the Arch Bridge in West Linn. The Society is a partner of the the Willamette Falls Heritage Area Coalition and a supporter of the Willamette Falls Heritage Foundation, the organizers of these events.

October 26 Lake Oswego Public Library Storytelling Festival

The Society was honored to be invited to participate in the Library's 3rd annual Storytelling Festival. Please stop by the Society's table at the festival on Saturday, October 26th from 11:00 to 2:00 at the Library.

November 1 Member Discount Day

It only happens twice a year so mark your calendars for member discount day! Members receive 15% off Society merchandise for one day only! Stock up for holiday gifts.

November 9 Lake Oswego Pendleton Home Store Event

The Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau <http://friendsocac.org>, the Society, and the Lake Oswego Public Library will be participating in a joint event at the Pendleton Home Store in the Lake View Village shopping center from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Start your holiday shopping and meet Pacific Northwest artist, Paul A. Lanquist. Mr. Lanquist will be on hand to sign posters, including a new Lake Oswego poster commissioned by the Society! Enjoy light refreshments and bring your vintage photos and stories of the Oregon Caves and Lake Oswego to share.

Please check the "Events" page of the Society's website for more details and the latest listings.