

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

Our mission:

To support Lake Oswego's historic fabric through advocacy and education.

Officers:

Marylou Colver,
Founder and President

Pat Snider,
Secretary

Rhonda Allen,
Treasurer

Directors:

Scott Howard
Bonnie Kroft
Joan Moore
Larry Snyder
Rachel Verdick
Emogene Waggoner
Jack Walsdorf



Over 150 visitors enjoyed the grand opening of our new History Center & Museum on April 7th and 8th. The museum, located at 40 Wilbur Street, is housed in the City's last remaining, intact Iron Company Worker's Cottage. It's also the oldest house in Lake Oswego that's open to the public.

Kim Stafford commemorated the grand opening with a poem entitled *Three Rooms in Old Oswego*. It was letterpress printed by Andre Chaves at the Clinker Press and framed copies were presented to our History Hero donors and the City of Lake Oswego. The broadside is also available for purchase in our gift shop.

The museum's inaugural exhibit: *Oregon's Iron Jubilee 1867—2017: Celebrating the First Iron Furnace on the Pacific Coast* was curated by historian Dr. Susanna Campbell Kuo and designed by Corinna Campbell-Sack. Displays include City-owned artifacts as well as items from the Society's collection. This exhibit will remain in place throughout 2017 as part of the 150th anniversary celebration of iron making in Oswego, the first on the Pacific Coast.



GRAND OPENING:

Top left: Peggy Moretti, Executive Director of Restore Oregon, and Marylou Colver (r). Top right: Jordan Wheeler, Assistant City Manager, with Kim Stafford, (r), poet. Bottom left : Board members Rachel Verdick and Bonnie Kroft (r). Bottom right: Stephanie Whitlock, Executive Director of the Architectural Heritage Center with Susanna Kuo (c) exhibit curator, and Jackie Manz (l), Lake Oswego City Councilor. Photos courtesy of Drew Nasto.

Admission is free and the museum is already among TripAdvisor's top ten attractions in Lake Oswego. Please help us reach more potential visitors by following up your visit with a TripAdvisor review.

We see a future in our past.

Quote of the Quarter: "May the fallen buildings we mourn be fuel for our resolve to save the ones we can."

— Kim Stafford

Now and Then

One of the oldest historic photos of the Iron Company Worker’s Cottage at 40 Wilbur Street (below right) was taken circa 1915. The unknown photographer took it from the top of the 1893 school that once stood where the Lakewood Center is today.

The History Center & Museum is housed in the one in the foreground—the only remaining, intact iron worker’s cottage west of the Rockies. The one next to it was demolished in 2005. There were originally 10 to 15 cottages built for iron workers, as well as boarding houses, in 19th century Oswego which roughly corresponds to today’s Old Town Neighborhood.

The Society asked drone photographer, Cliff Paguio, if he could duplicate this photo. Present-day buildings prevent replicating the exact perspective, but he was able to capture a comparative “now” photo.



Now: The Iron Company Worker’s Cottage has a red car parked in front of it. Drone photo courtesy of Clifford Paguio.



Then: Circa 1915 photo of two worker’s cottages on Wilbur Street. Photo courtesy of the Lake Oswego Public Library.

An Award Winning Organization



From left to right: Mayor Studebaker; Kasey Holwerda, HRAB board member, Marylou Colver, Society president; Rachel Verdick, Society and HRAB board member; Jack Walsdorf, Society board member.

The Society was honored to receive the City of Lake Oswego’s Historic Preservation Merit Award which was presented at the Lake Oswego City Council meeting on May 2nd.

It was awarded for successfully saving Lake Oswego’s oldest home, the 1855 Carman House, along with thousands of other historic properties across Oregon in a landmark Oregon Supreme Court decision.

Many thanks to the volunteer members of the Historic Resources Advisory Board for nominating the Society. The framed award is displayed proudly in our History Center & Museum.

Stay in Touch!

History Center & Museum

40 Wilbur Street
Lake Oswego, OR
97034

Tuesday, Thursday, &
first Saturday of the
month 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Website

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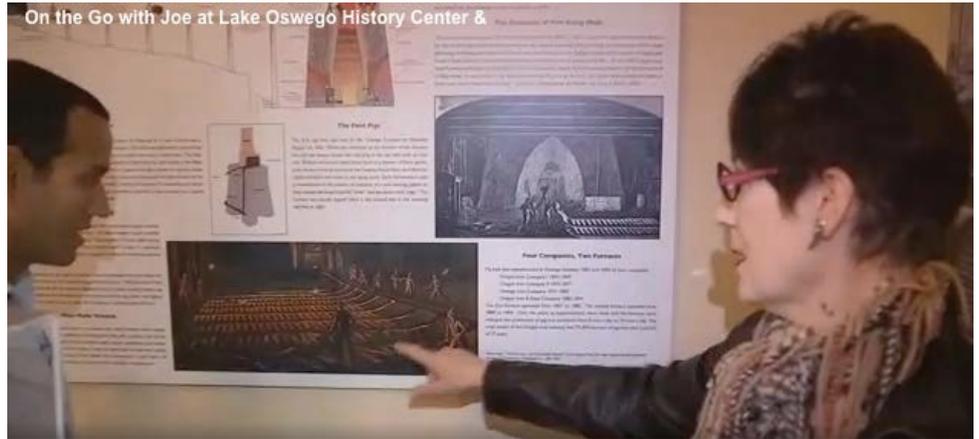
If you use social media,
we invite you to like our
Facebook page.

It's a great way to show
your support and to
see up-to-the-minute
announcements of our
preservation updates
and events.



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lakeoswego
preservationsociety

The Museum's 15 Minutes of Fame



The museum was ready for its close up! On April 25th, an *On the Go With Joe* segment aired featuring the History Center & Museum. We are grateful to Joe Vithayathil for bringing Lake Oswego's "hidden" industrial history to light for KPTV viewers. If you missed this almost four minute-long *Good Day Oregon* program, you may find a link to it on the Society's home page.

Marylou Colver (r) explains to Joe Vithayathil (l) how pig iron got its name. Image courtesy of KPTV.

We Have a Winner!

One opening day visitor correctly guessed the closest to the actual weight of the two bars of pig iron on display. Lauren Bruss' guess of 197.2 pounds missed the actual weight of 194.9 by only 2.3 pounds. Lauren was thrilled with her \$100

shopping spree in the museum gift shop.

Visitor's guesses ranged from 3,250 pounds to 43 pounds 8 ounces.

For the eagle-eyed, there was a clue. The interpretative card in the display case stated that each bar of pig iron produced at Oswego weighed "about one hundred pounds."



Lauren Bruss, winner of the pig iron weight guessing contest, enjoying her \$100 shopping spree.

The First Festival to Celebrate Lake Oswego's Iron History

Lake Oswego has never had a festival like this one to celebrate its history until now! Oregon's Iron Jubilee, co-sponsored by the City of Lake Oswego Parks & Recreation Department and the Lake Oswego Preservation Society, is slated for Saturday September 9th from 3:00 to 9:00 pm in George Rogers Park and the Old Town Neighborhood.



Celebrating the First Iron Furnace on the Pacific Coast

Family-friendly festivities include a pioneer base ball game played with 1860s rules and replica uniforms; live bluegrass music and clogging; a blacksmith demonstration; food vendors; and horse drawn wagon rides between the furnace and the Society's museum housed in the City's last remaining, intact Iron Company Worker's Cottage. The festival's grand finale will include flames inside the furnace and a fireworks display in lower George Rogers Park.

The companion exhibit at the History Center & Museum explains the significance of the 150th

anniversary of the first casting of pig iron from the Oswego Iron Furnace. It was a momentous event for the entire state of Oregon because prior to 1867, all iron on the Pacific Coast had to be shipped 17,000 miles around the Horn in a hazardous voyage that took four to five months, if the voyage was successful. Imported products, like pig iron, were extremely expensive on the West Coast. Today this is the only 19th century furnace still standing west of the Rocky Mountains so visitors would have to travel over 1,000 miles to see another example.

The importance of the iron industry to the West Coast was recognized in newspaper articles and in the iconic images of the furnace taken by San Francisco photographer Carleton E. Watkins in 1867. The importance of the industry to Oswego is commemorated in its earliest street names. When J. C. Trullinger filed the plat for Oswego in January 1867, he named six of the streets after the furnace and the men responsible for its construction. This original town site is today's Lake Oswego's Old Town Neighborhood.

Rick and Erika Miller are presenting sponsors and Lake Oswego ACE hardware is an entertainment level sponsor. Additional sponsors include Greg Meadors and Erin O'Rourke-Meadors. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Please contact Debbi Campbell: Debbi@strategicsponsorships.com



Clock Donation

The Clock Gallery, located at 420 N. State Street, kindly donated a period-appropriate Regulator clock for the museum's gift shop in the 1880s worker's cottage.

The clock features an octagonal top with a pendulum below. We appreciate the generosity of this locally-owned business which has been helping Lake Oswegans, in a timely manner, since 1998.

