



UPDATE

Linking Spokane's Past & Future

June 2011 ☉ volume 14 ☉ issue 2

ANNUAL GALA AND FUNDRAISER

Dave Shockley and Kathryn Burk-Hise, Gala Committee Co-Chairs

“Steppin’ Out at the Hop” was the fun theme for this year’s Gala and Fundraiser, and, once again, it was a great success! We raised over \$20,000 to continue our work in the preservation of Spokane’s historic treasures!

We’d like to thank the many people who made it happen. Carlton Oakes and The Masonic Center were our Gold Level Sponsor; they donated the use of the beautiful ballroom and the coordination of their wonderful staff! Sterling Savings Bank and Linda and Larry Milsow, sponsored the Gala at the Silver Level. And the Chattaroy Cheese Company and Paul and Janet Mann, helped us out with Pearl Level Sponsorships. Many of SPA’s members donated cash, numerous items for the loud and silent auctions, and their time!

We can’t begin to thank the Gala Committee for making the production of such an important fundraising event so fun and lively! Most committee members also donated items to the auction, as if their time wasn’t enough! Special thanks go to: Suzanne Markham, for using her artistic gift to produce our invitations, save-the-date cards, and auction program; Jerry Baldwin for his skill as our loud auction chair; Julie Biggerstaff for her creativity as our silent auction chair; Sophie Dufresnes and Linda Milsow, for finding a wonderful caterer; Karen Gendron and Kris Roark for their calm skill as co-chairs of check-in/check-out; Ralph and Karen Fishburn for managing the welcome drink; Ann Bergeman for coordination of all the desserts for the cake auction; the amazing talents of Jeanette Brenner and

JoAnn Stewart for their decorations that transformed the Masonic Ballroom into a rocking sock-hop; Kelly Lordan for a wonderful slide show; Rick Biggerstaff for organizing the pick-ups and working with the DJ; Larry Grossman for his ability to procure some of the best tickets in town and letting us use his lovely home; Lori Nicol for her hard work, procurement skills, and advice; Dana Dalrymple for keeping the Gala page of our website up to date; and, huge thanks to the Biggerstaffs for hosting our meetings in their beautiful home! Also, thanks to emcee Susanna Baylon, auctioneer Austin Booker, and caterers, A Catered Affair, and everyone else who participated and/or contributed in any way.

Many thanks to the volunteers who worked the night of the event: Neil and Mary Huggins, Diana Painter, Steve Roark, Jenny Stabile, Paul Markham, Nancy Young, and Deena Moe-Caruso, her daughter, Sophia, and the wonderful volunteers from Finders Keepers.

Attendees generously bid on delicious desserts, dinners in historic homes, restaurants and buildings, fabulous vacation stays, a cocktail party with special guest, Mary Verner, an afternoon of sailing on Lake Coeur d’Alene, ski packages, wonderful artwork, a rooftop party, and many, many other wonderful items and packages that were all generously donated for the Gala! This year’s “Raise the Paddle” was for the upcoming 2012 National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference here in Spokane, and we raised over \$6,700!

Nearly everyone came in 50’s era clothing—there were hep cats and greasers, bobby soxers and squares, hipsters and beatnik! It was crazy, Daddy-O! DJ Austin Drake kept the room hopping all evening with music from the 50s! People danced late into the night!

We’ll begin planning for next year’s Gala soon, so if you’re interested in helping or contributing, please contact Kathryn at the SPA office at (509) 344-1065. Committee meetings are a lot of fun and your time commitment is limited.

See photos of Gala event on page 3.

Look for the SPA booth at ArtFest! June 3–5 Coeur d’Alene Park in historic Browne’s Addition.

In This Issue

Gala	p.1
President’s Message	p.2
Gala Photos	p.3
Montvale Farm	p.4–5
SPA Introduces Award	p.6
Advocacy Committee.....	p.7
Art Fest.....	p.8

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SPA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Preservationists can see the future," observed Kim Pearman-Gillman, Business Development Director for McKinstry, as she led SPA board members on a recent tour of the company's future Inland Northwest campus, which is rapidly taking shape in the historic Great Northern Railway Building on Spokane Falls Boulevard. Waving her hands to trace out McKinstry's ambitious renovation plans, she knew that where most people would see muddy floors, dirty brick and loose wiring, we would see the sophisticated engineering-and-more firm of over 100 employees that would soon breathe new life into this old building.

We preservationists see Spokane's future as a hub of innovation in business and education, and as a city that offers a high quality of life for its residents; and we see historic buildings and places playing a central role in that future. Just look around: in addition to McKinstry's renovation of the Great Northern building, Sun People Dry Goods and the Spokane Public Market have recently occupied an old brick warehouse on Browne, and new neighborhoods of small businesses have taken root in historic buildings along Main Avenue near Division, along Second Avenue near Washington, and elsewhere. Old and historic buildings are natural business incubators because they are often more cost-effective than new construction, and they offer unique characteristics that customers, employees and tourists appreciate.

Historic preservation is thriving in Spokane, and SPA is preparing for a big year ahead. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has selected Spokane to host the National Preservation Conference in October 2012. Ours is the smallest city ever to be awarded this honor. SPA is working with the City/County Historic Preservation Office and others to fund and plan this event. The conference will bring over 2,000 people to Spokane, and will use the city as a classroom to showcase local preservation successes and issues.

Please consider making a special tax-deductible donation to help us meet our financial obligation to this important event by sending a check to SPA with "National Preservation Conference" in the memo line.

Also this year, in order to promote historic preservation through advocacy, preservation and education ever-more effectively, SPA is forming an Advisory Board of business and community leaders. SPA will be supporting the City/County Historic Preservation Office's effort to strengthen the city's demolition ordinance. We will be assisting WSU in finding an appropriate buyer for the historic Jensen-Byrd Building, the imposing but currently vacant 1909 landmark at the east end of Main Street that will soon be on the market.

Perhaps most important, this year SPA will initiate a membership drive. Our members are our lifeblood, and we believe there are many more people in this community who would like to support our efforts. We will soon be asking all of our members to help us with this drive, and to help us with a range of volunteer opportunities. Whether you can help staff our booth at a local fair for an hour or join our Board of Directors, any contribution of your time and talent will help us carry out our mission. **Learn more about volunteer opportunities through the Contact Us/ Volunteer link on our website, or by calling the office at 509-344-1065.**

I am honored to serve as the new president of SPA, and to welcome three new members to the board: Julie Biggerstaff as a Member-at-Large, Annie Doyon as Chair of the Advocacy Committee and Ro Lisk as Chair of the Communications Committee. SPA is a truly home-grown, member-driven organization that has had a substantial, positive impact on the Spokane community since it was founded in 1997. We can see our future, and you are a big part of it.

Matt Cohen

GALA & AUCTION 2011:

In Case You Missed it



The girls from Finders Keepers doing the Cake Walk.



Loud Auction Art Work - Monroe street Bridge.



Barb and Rick Clapp and Guests.



The Gala Committee



Dave Shockley and Julie Biggerstaff.

MONTVALE FARM

by Linda Yeomans, historic preservation research consultant

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SPA Quarterly Meeting
June 14th | 5:30 pm

5821 W. Rutter Parkway,
Spokane, WA 99208

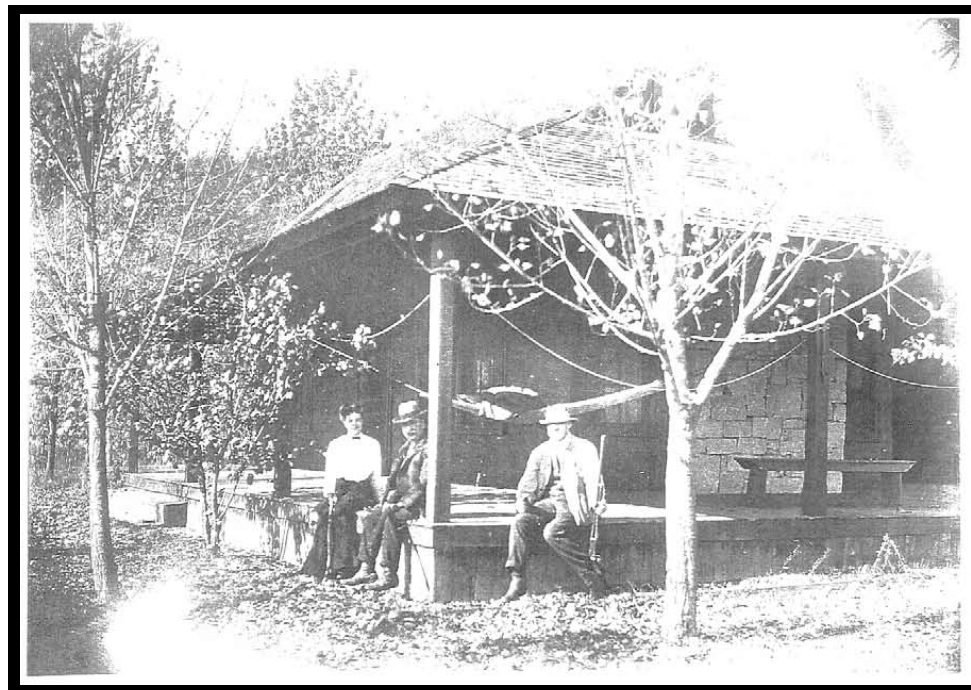
Members, please bring
finger-food and a beverage
to share.

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Developed in the late 1880s, Montvale Farm was owned at different times by two of Spokane's most prominent pioneer business and civic leaders: Judge John W. Binkley and Aubrey Lee White. In 1887-1889, Judge Binkley, a Spokane probate judge and an avid and wealthy outdoorsman, purchased more than 300 acres in the area along the Little Spokane River, a natural wetland river valley which is located about ten miles northwest of downtown Spokane.

He built a four-room cabin along the north shore of the river, lavishly entertained his friends, including such Spokane luminaries as Louis Davenport, John Finch, and Royal Riblet (Arbor Crest winery at Riblet Mansion) with hunting/fishing expeditions and summer barbecues, and affectionately called his gentlemen's "mountain valley" get-away "Montvale Farm" (Binkley also built a house in Spokane at 628 S. Maple Street and the Montvale Hotel at 1001-09 W. First Avenue).

In 1905, Binkley's daughter, Ethelyn Binkley, married Spokane businessman, Aubrey White. Nicknamed the "Father of Spokane Parks," Aubrey White promoted park designs which were rendered by the famous Olmsted Brothers of Massachusetts, and was nationally credited with "giving Spokane more parkland per person than any city in America."



The original four room cabin at Montvale Farm.

In 1914, Binkley commissioned Spokane architect, Clarence Smith, to design plans for a larger home at Montvale Farm. Smith met the challenge and dramatically enlarged and remodeled the little four-room hunting/fishing cabin into a spacious, single-family house with six bedrooms and 3,400 square feet—grand enough for Binkley's daughter, Ethelyn Binkley, and her family.

In 1928, Judge Binkley deeded Montvale Farm with the remodeled Montvale Farmhouse to Ethelyn & Aubrey White, who resided in the house, raised four daughters, and developed the grounds and river banks with flowers, shrubs, and trees. In 1943, the Whites sold the property to two sisters, Jane and Marsinah Marshall, and their respective husbands, brothers John and Albert Canwell.

In 1986, they deeded most of the land at Montvale Farm to Washington State for conservation as undeveloped parkland, wetland, and wildlife watershed for the Little Spokane River, retaining only 25 acres for themselves. Today Michael

Weaver, a member of the Marshall-Canwell family, and his wife, Ronda Weaver, own the historic Montvale Farmhouse and 13 acres of Montvale Farm, a coveted "bottomland" which includes a fertile floodplain and riverbanks along the north side of the Little Spokane River. Historically and architecturally significant to the history of Spokane, Montvale Farm and the Montvale Farmhouse were listed on the Spokane Register of Historic Places in 2007.

Open to the Public: Located just west across Rutter Parkway from Montvale Farm are prehistoric Indian rock paintings. Sheltered under an overhanging ledge from weather and vandals, the paintings feature sun, buffalo, and lizard images drawn in red pigment. While the meaning of the rock paintings remains unknown, the paintings are historically significant as tangible reminders of Indians who lived in the river valley before the arrival of the white men. The rock paintings were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.



Architect Clarence Smith designed this larger structure for Montvale Farm in 1914.



JOANNE MOYER AWARD FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION ANNOUNCED

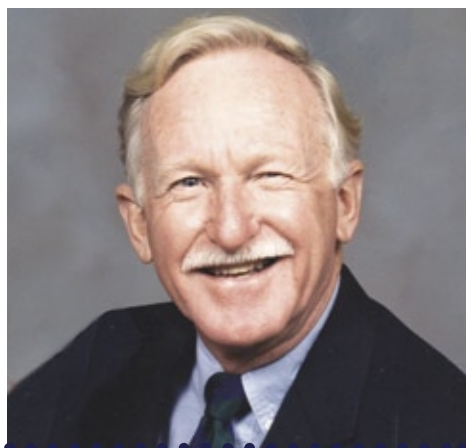
SPA presented their first award for historic preservation inspiration to Joanne Moyer at the recent Gala. The award, named in her honor, will be presented annually to a person, business or organization that has demonstrated inspiration, dedication and education in historic preservation activities in Spokane County.

Joanne was a charter member of SPA, has served on the Historic Preservation

Committee of the MAC, the Spokane City-County Landmarks Commission, and the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation Board. She has been the Eastern Washington Advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and is currently serving as a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and as an advisor to SPA. In 2003 she received the State Historic Preservation Office Outstanding Career Achievement Award, which

acknowledges the contributions of an individual over a long span of time to the general practice of historic preservation. She was the obvious choice as our first award winner!

Nominees for next year's "Joanne" will be accepted any time before January 2012. A nomination form will be emailed to all SPA members and will also be available on our Facebook page and website in the near future.



IN MEMORY

Preservation lost a good friend and supporter this last month. Leon Arksey died following a brief illness. Leon spent many years on the Preservation Committee of the Museum of Arts and Culture and was a longtime member and supporter of SPA. He is survived by his wife, Laura and three children. Laura is a noted author and historian, long active in preservation activities in Spokane. A retired professor in English literature, Leon will be missed for his love of the classics, his wit, twinkling eyes and smile, and love of good red wine. His thoughtful suggestions and efforts for our activities were greatly valued and will be missed.

2012 NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

Planning for the 2012 National Preservation Conference has been underway since we received word that Spokane had been selected in 2008. The final phase of preparation will kick off with a community meeting in August (exact date still to be determined). The National Trust calls this a "wide net" meeting—it is designed to bring into the process everyone who might have an interest in historic preservation or the Conference.

The planning committee is working to reach out to groups across the region to provide the widest representation possible. If you want to become involved, or if you have suggestions about who should be included, please contact the SPA office or Kristen Griffin, our City/County Historic Preservation Officer, with your thoughts.

DOING IT IDEAS NEEDED

Do you know of a historic property which needs an SPA "Doing-It" project? Over the last 14 years Spokane Preservation Advocates has sponsored "hands-on" work parties involving a variety of activities like archeological digs, painting parties, wallpaper removal, historic neighborhood surveys, archiving work, "unveilings" (removing inappropriate siding from historic buildings), street tree plantings, and even a major post-fire clean-up at the historic Sherwood Mansion. We're looking for projects all over the city and in Spokane County, too.

**Contact "Doing-It" Co-Chairs
Gary Lauerman 509.456.3237
or Kelly Lordan 509.435.3638.**



ADVOCACY COMMITTEE UPDATE & GOALS

by Annie Doyon

We are very excited about this upcoming year on the advocacy committee, working toward new goals and sharing SPA's mission with as many people in Spokane County as possible.

We recently established a Facebook page, and are thrilled to be able to instantly share, photos, events, volunteer opportunities, SPA updates, and preservation news, articles, or other links with everyone. This is also a great place to see who else you share your support for preservation with! We will continue to utilize Facebook to keep everyone up to date, so if you have not "liked" us yet please come do so! Just type "Spokane Preservation Advocates" in the search bar at the top of the Facebook website, or go directly to our profile at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Preservation-Advocates/114371255282917>

We are also excited to continue spreading awareness in the coming year regarding mid-(20th)-century modern architecture. Right here in Spokane we have a fantastic collection of resources from this era! Some of these were highlighted in the recent Mid-Century Modern Lecture Series sponsored by the NW Museum of Arts and Culture, the Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office, SPA, and Anderson Mraz Design. We saw a great turnout at this two-day event and would love to continue educating and engaging the public on this topic and how Spokane can really be a showcase community for this type of architecture.

A primary purpose of our committee is to advocate for particular historical resources in Spokane and Spokane County that face imminent threats. One such resource is the Jensen-Byrd building, which the owner, WSU will soon list for sale. This building, a prominent local landmark eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, has much potential to become a key economic driver in the University

District at the point where downtown meets the WSU Riverpoint campus. The building has stood vacant for many years, and is in critical need of a developer with the vision and expertise to take advantage of the numerous tax credits and other incentives that are available for historic building renovations.

We are also currently in the process of developing our first Spokane Matters list. The primary goal of our list will be to inform and educate the public by sharing the stories of historic places that matter to the community. We hope that this list will not only spread awareness of historic places throughout Spokane County but will also help us share stories of our area's heritage, some of the creative approaches used in local projects, and some of the unique solutions possible and assistance available for old buildings, structures, objects or sites!

If you are interested in becoming involved with any of these, or other, issues – please get in touch with Annie Doyon, advocacy committee chair! We would love for you

to be involved with our committee, join us for events, or come out as a volunteer for any of our future projects! Make sure to stay-tuned for more ways in which you can learn more and be involved in preservation in Spokane!!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS TO THE SPOKANE MATTERS LIST:

As part of our work toward putting together our first Spokane Matters list, SPA's advocacy committee is currently seeking nominations. We would like to hear about the historic places that matter to those of you in our community. If there is a building, structure, site, or object that you think has a place in the Spokane County's heritage, and would like to see it highlighted on our list and shared with the community, we would love to hear from you! Note that not all submissions will be included on the final list, and that you may be asked to provide additional information about the place you are nominating. Please submit your nominations to Annie Doyon, the advocacy committee chair at: annie@adpreservation.com or annie.doyon@gmail.com by June 30, 2011.

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SPA Mission Statement

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ART FEST

It's that time again! Can you staff the SPA booth for a few hours at ArtFest? It is the first weekend of June in Coeur d'Alene Park/Browne's Addition. Pick a shift from the list on the right!

Either e-mail connie.e315@gmail.com or call Connie Emry, Booth Coordinator at 363-1899.

When you respond, please indicate whether there is someone you could/ would bring with you to cover your shift; otherwise, I will try to get enough people to assign 2 to each shift.

Thank you! Connie

Friday, June 3

12:00 - 3:00
3:00 - 6:00
6:00 - 9:00

Saturday, June 4

10:00 - 1:00
1:00 - 4:00
4:00 - 6:30
6:30 - 9:00

Sunday, June 5

10:00 - 12:30
12:30 - 3:00
3:00 - 5:00