

Winter 2006

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OMA DISPATCH

Post Office Box 1718, Portland, OR 97207 www.oregon-museums.org

The newsletter of the Oregon Museums Association, *Dispatch*, is published four times a year: April, July, September and December. Oregon Museums Association is a statewide membership organization serving the needs of museums and related institutions, large and small, across Oregon. OMA holds meetings and workshops around the state throughout the year, advocates for the interests of its members in legislative and other matters, publishes a bi-annual *Guide To Oregon Museums*, and a periodic directory of all known museums in the state. Historic houses, aquaria, interpretive centers and sites, zoos, heritage sites - all are potential members of OMA. OMA is a nonprofit organization; contributions are tax deductible. OMA provides scholarships to members for professional development. OMA is an affiliated state organization of the Western Museums Association. Send news about your museum to Katherine Huit (katherine.huit@spruce-goose.org). Digital files are preferred, but hard copy can be sent to Katherine Huit, 7020 SW Lebold Road, McMinnville, OR 97128.

Editor: Katherine Huit
Editorial Board: Connie Nice, Alice Parman, Julie Reese, and Irene Zenev.

Spring Issue Deadline: March 2, 2007

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**OMA SPRING MEETING SLATED FOR PENDLETON
MAY 3-5, 2007 (tentative)**

The 2007 OMA spring meeting will take place in Pendleton in conjunction with the Oregon Heritage Conference.

The conference attracts people involved with museums, historic landmarks commissions, historical societies, historic buildings, historic cemeteries, government agencies, and other heritage organizations. Attendees learn about current and developing trends and techniques, become better acquainted with each other and their activities in the state, express concerns about the state's heritage resources, and work to coordinate efforts to conserve and develop it.

The conference includes seminars, workshops, bus and walking tours, and well-known experts. Sessions will be of interest to museum staff and volunteers from around the state.

The Northwest Oral History Association and Northwest Archivists have offered to present workshops at this year's conference in Pendleton. In addition, the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries and the Oregon Heritage Commission will have their quarterly meetings. Attendees will also be the first to learn the results of the 2006 Oregon Museums Survey!

Tentatively scheduled for May 3-5, 2007, this is the first time that the Heritage Conference will take place in eastern Oregon - and the first time for a joint Oregon Museum's Association / Heritage Conference joint meeting! Additional details will be available in the next issue of the Dispatch. For updated information, please visit www.oregonheritage.org or write to heritage.info@state.or.us.

President's Message

Happy New Year! The greeting applies both to the new calendar year and to the 2006-07 year for Oregon Museums Association. In conjunction with the October annual meeting the Hood River County Historical Museum and the Fruit Foundation Historical Society organized an outstanding program that addressed issues faced by every museum. Thank you to Connie Nice and members of both organizations for their warm hospitality.

Effective with the annual business meeting, President Irene Zenev and Katherine Huit retired from the Board. Their service has been exemplary, and OMA is fortunate that they will remain active as past president and Dispatch editor, respectively. OMA members elected David Porter as Vice-president, and new Board member Bob Hart joins re-elected and continuing incumbents. I am honored to have been elected President and am eager to continue working with this dedicated group and you to support Oregon's museums with high-quality educational, marketing, and networking opportunities.

As you will learn through updates in this issue of the Dispatch, the Board is working hard to make OMA valuable and cost-effective for your museum. Plans are underway for the next Guide to Oregon Museums. We are launching a new website to promote OMA and to provide the public with a link to your museum. We are tweaking the Dispatch to increase its usefulness to you. Programs and educational opportunities will be diverse. The Board is planning a retreat for mid-January, and we welcome your suggestions for enhancing our organization. Contact any of us to offer input.

Have a happy and productive winter, and I'll see you in the spring, if not before!

Sincerely,
Julie Reese, President

High Desert Rendezvous of Museum Professionals, Volunteers

By Irene Zenev

There's more to Idaho than great potatoes! Situated where the high desert meets the edge of the Rocky Mountains, Boise, the City of Trees, is rich in history, museums and cultural events. Boise was also the site of this year's Western Museums Association meeting October 11-15. Irene Zenev, Benton County Historical Society's Exhibitions Curator joined more than 400 museum folks to "relocate the keen leading edge of our profession." From future studies to marketing and fund raising to visions of the 21st century museum, sessions featured valuable information for everyone.

Elaine Heumann Gurian spoke to the issues of changing responsibilities of museums in society. No longer will museums be interpreters of information in the age of new communications technologies, but will provide direct access to information about collections through databases and facilitated research. With advances in technology moving forward at an increasingly rapid pace, Gurian encouraged museum board members, directors, and curators to revisit how museums create direct public access to their collections. A summary from a few of the sessions follows:

NO MORE BUSINESS AS USUAL: HELPING DIRECTORS AND THEIR BOARDS ADD VALUE TO THEIR WORK

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Summary of the session:

Without realizing it, many governing boards of nonprofit organizations may be inadvertently subtracting value from their organizations by conducting routine meetings. People that make up nonprofit boards are more often than not part-time amateurs managing full-time professionals. Trustees have expertise in their own fields valuable to the organization, but may have almost no understanding of the focus of the organization they are supporting. Moderator: Midge Bowman, Executive Director, Frye Art Museum; Presenters: Jim Tharp, Board Chair, Dan O'Laurie Museum of Moab; Jackie Der, Trustee, Wing Luke Art Museum; Heather Ferrell, Director, Salina Art Center. Continued on page 2

If you are interested in submitting a 500 word article of professional, scholarly or political relevance to Oregon museums and museum professionals please contact the Editor. All submissions will be screened by the Editorial Board. Deadline for the Spring 2007 issue is March 2, 2007.

When bogged down in basic stewardship of tangible assets, board members become passive listeners. They are compliance focused, oriented to the past, detail-oriented and often consider assumptions "facts." Compliant trustees rubber-stamp the decisions of staff, when, in actuality, boards would be more effective if they were brought into discussions much earlier in the process.

A board of trustees that passively govern an organization can only answer yes or no. This mode does not allow any consideration, discussion or thinking about issues. Asking whether one can afford a program will usually result in a negative vote.

Bringing board members into a knowledge culture requires a major paradigm shift for many organizations. Instead of trustees asking questions like: "How much does that program cost?", trustees engaged in a generative process will raise questions like: "How does this advance our mission? What happens if we do not do this? Is this program sustainable? What are the opportunities this project represents? Should we be doing it? How will it help or hinder the organization? What will it lead to?"

Moving a board of trustees from a board of oversight to a board of inquiry requires an investment of time. Trustees should engage in discussion. Staff should tell its board of trustees stories that allow them to fall in love with the institution they are serving. Staff should help build agendas that promote generative activity. Financial reports need to move from columns of numbers to a narrative-based budget - tell the story of the numbers in prose, so all trustees can understand the budget.

Effective and educational board meetings are key to building a productive governing body. Agendas should promote generative activities. Ask: "What do we want to accomplish?" and build agendas around that. Each meeting has a specific purpose, and becomes thematic around one major issue. Send out packets of information for regular, routine business of the board a week in advance, then the board can vote on items without discussion by consent. (For issues on a consent agenda that need discussion, place them separately in the packet for consideration by the group.)

Each Board meeting becomes thematic around one major issue. Trustees should hear expert testimony on that issue. Sometimes holding a board meeting at another venue connected to the mission of the organization is helpful. Breaking the board up into groups for small group discussion could be valuable.

Engage your board of trustees by educating them about your values:

Values-Identification: Values can be articulated in the board's long-term strategies, program and budget. Application of these values may be an ongoing process with board, executive director, constituencies, and consultants.

Values-Development: Organizational turning points offer Trustees the opportunity to revisit or restate values-for examples: Strategic planning for new facilities or recruitment of a new executive director.

Values-Put into Action: The key dynamic is integrative action. Aspects of integrative action are: institutional memory, respect for debate, willingness to set aside ego, and commitment to the organization's goals.

A yearly board class schedule should be developed including addressing current issues in museum management, meeting with museum professionals, conducting panel discussions, retreats, etc.

MUSEUMS, UNIVERSITIES, AND THE BRIDGE BETWEEN TOWN AND GOWN Programming in colleges and universities intersects with museum programming. Museums often have difficulty engaging this

audience, although they share the same mission. Why have museums not engaged the University audience? How can museum staff engage professors and students? What are the goals of a museum/university partnership? Using audience development models from diverse disciplines, presenters provided models for involving college faculty and students in museum programming. Moderator: Carin Jacobs, Curator of Education, Judah L. Magnes Museum. Presenters: Melanie Fales, Curator of Education, Boise Art Museum; Inez Wolins, Senior Director of Education and Visitor Experience, Autry National Center.

Summary of the session:

The academic audience is a two-pronged audience consisting of students and faculty. Despite the direct relevance that museum objects have to college curricula, educational outreach from public museums is heavily weighted in favor of K-12 students. The college audience is distinct from the K-12 audience. They share an educational focus, but the curriculum at the college level is not standardized, making it more challenging for museums to dovetail with course content. Additionally, the college audience is not composed of "recreational" learners. They are motivated by achievement and grades.

Museums need to explore the connections between college curriculum and exhibition content. The museum itself can be a forum for communication between professors and curators. Museums can help college audiences establish themselves in the community and feel comfortable in their surroundings.

Time, geography and relevance are all obstacles to creating a relationship with a college or university. To engage professors, notice of exhibitions and programs should be sent out a year in advance. With enough advance notice, faculties have been known to build an entire course around a relevant exhibition. Museums must focus on campuses that are close to their facility. Students must often take public transportation to visit your facility, and relevance to the college curriculum is more difficult to monitor.

There are examples of projects and programs that have led museum educators successfully to interact with college students. Target the 101 courses, which are far more standardized than upper division courses. Convene an ongoing academic advisory committee to decide the needs of a faculty and students, and foster new relationships with the academic community. Develop educational programs specifically for college audiences, rather than simply adapting K-12 materials. Send out advance notice of exhibitions and programs as early as possible so that museum offerings might be incorporated into curriculum plans. Target mailings to faculty teaching relevant courses. Highlight thematic areas of overlap between exhibition content and existing syllabi, which are often on line, whenever possible. Recognize the pedagogical and audience development benefits of working with college audiences. Students represent potential individual members and may be a source of future family memberships.

Obviously, using college interns in the museum setting is a natural way to engage college students. One English department professor assigned students to a museum cataloging project to develop their writing skills. Students cataloged photographs, writing concise descriptions of the images. The professor checked their descriptions for style, curators for content.

The Magnes Museum in the San Francisco bay area has worked with local art schools, inviting students to curator-led tours of their exhibitions. Following the tour, students are invited to submit abstracts of the talk responding to the installation. Curatorial staff then selects two talks per show to be presented in the galleries as the closing program. These talks are also published on the museum website.

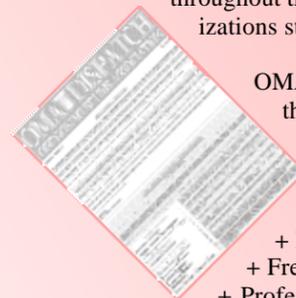
Boise Art Museum offers free admission to Boise State University students by partnering with the University's student activities program. BSU granted several thousand dollars to the Museum so they could offer free admission to students with valid ID cards.

Continued on page 6

Membership with the Oregon Museums Association

Looking for information about museums in Oregon? Want to learn more about museum program activities? Join the Oregon Museums Association and start networking today!

OMA members network with museum professionals and participate in informative workshops at different locations throughout the state. OMA provides information to its members about legislative matters that effect museum organizations statewide, and nationwide.



OMA is an affiliate of the Western Museums Association, and that affiliation is another good reason to join the Oregon Museums Association. Membership benefits include:

- + The *Dispatch* newsletter packed with helpful and timely information
- + Listing in the *Guide to Oregon Museums*, published bi-annually.
- + **COMING SOON!** Improved *OMA Website* with enhanced features.
- + Membership meetings in different regions of the state.
- + Free behind-the-scenes admission at area museums.
- + Professional training opportunities.
- + Support of a professional network.

Memberships in the Oregon Museums Association (OMA) expire at the end of each calendar year. If you have not renewed, or just have questions about your membership, please contact Ray Vandiver, Membership Chair, at 503/797-4540 or rvandiver@oms.edu. Renewal forms, in PDF file format, are also available at www.oregon-museums.org.

Join the Oregon Museums Association and start networking today!

2007 OREGON MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

“ NEW	“ RENEW	“ 2007	“ 2008
TODAY'S DATE _____		DATE REC'D _____	
Individual			\$25.00
Student / Volunteer			\$15.00
Institutional (operating budget less than \$50,000)			\$75.00
	(\$50,000 - \$200,000)		\$120.00
	(\$200,000 and above)		\$180.00
Corporate / Business			\$75.00
First name _____ Last name _____			
Title _____			
Museum name _____			
Organization name (if different) _____			
Mailing address _____			
City _____		State _____	Zip _____
Site address (if different) _____			
City _____		State _____	Zip _____
Work phone _____		Home phone _____	
Fax _____		Cell phone _____	
E-Mail _____			
Website _____			

Please send completed membership application and check (payable to Oregon Museums Association or OMA) to: Oregon Museums Association, PO Box 1718, Portland, OR 97207-1718. Thank you.

All OMA memberships are on a calendar year and expire on December 31st. If you have questions, please contact Ray Vandiver, Membership Chair, 503.797.4540 or rvandiver@oms.edu.

CREATIVE FUNDRAISING FOR THE COMMUNITY MUSEUM

Fundraising is critical to the survival of non-profits at all levels. Idaho, as with other states, has a majority of small museums that struggle for survival. Small museums are trapped with supporting small-scale, localized events that create a minimal return for the effort. It is important that these museums broaden their fundraising efforts and look at those efforts being "without limits". Moderator: Joyce M. Cameron, Director of Development & Communications, Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture; Presenters: Jim DeMersman, Executive Director, Hayward Area Historical Society; Lyle Wirtnaen, Director, The Historical Museum at St. Gertrude; Deloris Jungert Davisson, Director, Winchester Historical Museum.

Summary of the session:

All presenters advised those fund-raising events should have the following components:

- Events should be driven by the mission of the organization
- Events should address different levels of income
- The event should be simple to accomplish, but fun!
- The event should create expectation for following years.
- There should be a postmortem after each event for evaluation
- The organization should be willing to change the event

Fund-raising events are not all about money- they're also about hospitality, making new friends, and developing new audiences. Don't give up if your event is not an immediate success, but don't be afraid to "pull the plug" if the event does not work.

Examples of some events held by community institutions that raise about \$10-15K per event:

Moonlight Serenade - a Glenn Miller style big band entertains during a summer night of dancing.

Raspberry Festival - an auction event supplemented by food booths (raspberry shortcake). The organization has added features to the festival every year, including a quilt show, car show, fun run, breakfast, and motorcycle rally.

Antique/Collectibles show - antique dealers set up booths on the grounds of the museum for a two day event. Dealers are charged for the booth and pay 10 percent of sales. Food vendors are available. Set up happens the night before which incurs security costs. Historic house tours are included.

Holiday Homes Tour - held the 2nd Sunday in December, limited number of tickets are sold. Houses are chosen for decoration, not necessarily architectural style. An antique car is parked in front of house to indicate location. Donated door prizes help capture names and addresses for membership development. Participants pick up tickets at Museum, get a 20 percent discount in the Museum store and self-tour the homes in random order. Bootees are provided to homeowners, music is provided at each home.

Historic Preservation Award Ceremony & Gala - a black-tie affair held during Historic Preservation week (2nd week in May). Sit down catered dinner is limited to 15 tables. Decoration is done by the Museum staff and the theme is different every year. There is a hosted bar and silent auction. This event has become the social event of the community; the higher the Museum set the ticket price, the better the attendance has been. The Museum has been successful in obtaining corporate sponsorship to underwrite some of the expenses. Awards are given to community members for individual achievement, business achievement, adaptive reuse, etc.

MOVING WITHOUT LIMITS: THE LARGE AND UNUSUAL

The care and safety of a collection serves as a primary aspect of an institution's mission. This session focused on the moving of objects from gallery to gallery or storage, with a concentration on the heavy, oversized, and unusual. Presenters addressed these situations when staffing, budgets and space are limited. For institutions that are mid-sized or small, this is even more of a challenge. Panelists represented a historical museum, a zoo, and a commercial art shipping company. Moderator: Ted Greenberg, Head Registrar, Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Presenters: Joe Toluse, Curator, Idaho Historical Museum; Corinne Pickett, Registrar, Zoo Boise; Mike Hascall, Owner, Artech Fine Arts Services.

Summary of the discussion:

There is nothing more daunting for collections managers and exhibition preparators than the challenge of moving large and/or heavy objects. Presenters at this session offered advice on equipment to use and methods to follow:

- Have adequate people-power-one person has to be in charge, and the rest have to take direction.
- Have a plan- think about the route that lies ahead of you and the object. What are the heights of the doors? Are there door-jams or thresholds in the way? Stairs? Size of the elevator? Think about the move before you dive in. Clear the path of obstacles.
- Communicate clearly once you have a plan-teach people how to use the equipment. Don't assume everyone knows. Be specific in your directions during the move.
- Have the right equipment and make sure the leader knows how to use it. Some of the standard equipment includes tin threshold covers, palette jack, levers, blocks of various sizes, wedges, ropes and straps (not cables or chains!), a come-along, and rollers made of 8" to 18" diameter pipe. Use the large diameter pipe for carpeted areas, small diameter pipe for smooth floors. Always practice using rollers. Steering can be tricky.

Other equipment (listed in ascending order of size) that was recommended for moving large crates and objects includes:

- Dock plate
- J-bar (can be used to lift a crate and glide it across a smooth surface)
- Four wheel cart (can be used for objects less than 1000 pounds).
- Hydraulic table lift
- Four wheel dollie
- Hand truck-refrigerator style
- Fork lift-operator needs to be certified.
- Carpet dollie
- Painter's dollie
- Material Handling Lift-also called a Genie Lift
- Gantry with two chain hoists and trolleys
- Scissors lift
- Bucket lift

There is a new polyethylene material on the market called UHMW polyethylene. It is an ultra-high molecular weight material which, when cut into strips, makes a very smooth sliding surface underneath heavy objects or crates.

Irene Zenev recently retired as Exhibits Curator at the Benton County Historical Museum in Philomath, and currently serves on the Oregon Museums Association Board as Past President.

OREGON MUSEUM ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Hood River Hotel Conference Room, Hood River, Oregon

Monday, October 9, 2007

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION: OMA President Irene Zenev called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

MINUTES: Katherine Huit moved, MJ Koreiva seconded to approve minutes as published in the Dispatch. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Richard Engeman gave a summary of OMA's current financial status.

Savings Account	\$7941.30
Checking Account	\$5586.99
Petty Cash	\$ 3.47

The board approved an operating budget for 2007 at the board meeting on Sunday, October 8.

2007 SLATE OF OFFICERS: Irene reviewed the slate of 2007 officers as presented by the nominating committee:

- President:** Julie Reese
- Vice-President:** David Porter
- Past President:** Irene Zenev
- Treasurer:** Richard Engeman
- Members at Large:** Ray Vandiver, John Enders, MJ Koreiva and Bob Hart

Board members continuing include Secretary Connie Nice, Kyle Jansson, and Tracy Buckley. David Porter moved to approve the slate of officers as published and presented. Tracy Buckley seconded. Motion carried. Irene shared some closing thoughts as outgoing president and thanked all those who have worked with and supported her during her term in office. Julie Reese presented Irene with a small gift from the OMA as a token of appreciation from the board and members.

MEMBERSHIP / MARKETING COMMITTEE: Membership Chair; Ray Vandiver shared some notes from Sunday's OMA board meeting outlining current status on membership and fee structure changes. Proposed:

Corporate Members	\$75.00
Individual Member	\$25.00
Student/Volunteer	\$15.00
Institutions (-\$50,000 budget)	\$75.00
Institutions (\$50,000 to \$200,000)	\$120.00
Institutions (\$200,000+)	\$180.00

All institutional memberships will include listing in the guide book and features on the new website. Ray recognized Life Member - Bill Burk who shared a few words of encouragement to members.

WEBSITE / MARKETING COMMITTEE: MJ brought the members up to speed on the progress of the new website. Information for each institution's page will be gathered at the same time as membership renewals and guide book information. MJ outlined a few of the bonus features that will be included in the site. More information will follow soon in the upcoming Dispatch.

GUIDEBOOK / MARKETING COMMITTEE: Connie presented some current discussion regarding the upcoming guide book publication. This will tie closely with the website and new member fee structures. All members will be included in this next printing. More information will follow.

THE DISPATCH / MARKETING COMMITTEE: Katherine Huit will continue as editor of *The Dispatch*, which will decrease in publication size due to the amount of information that will be transferred over to the website once completed. Issues will be published quarterly with a different color format each season. The newsletter is designed primarily for member information about upcoming meetings, etc. "News" and information about exhibits and institutional items will be posted on the new website.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Julie informed the members that the board had voted to decrease the number of OMA meetings per year to two. The first will be in the spring in Pendleton (May 3,4,5) in conjunction with the Oregon Heritage Conference. The fall meeting for 2007 will be in Astoria at the Columbia Maritime Museum on October 21, 22. Fall 2008 will be held at OMSI / spring location still to be announced. Since Julie will be moving up to the position of association president, David Porter will be serving as Program Chair for 2007. The OMA board will continue to meet and work quarterly.

HERITAGE COMMISSION UPDATE: Kyle Jansson told members that the Heritage Commission survey forms would be coming soon. This survey used to be part of the Museum Grant application process. Kyle asked everyone to please take time to complete the survey and return since the information provided is the basis for funding and programs developed through the Oregon Heritage Commission.

Kyle introduced something NEW! The Oregon Heritage Commission is launching a new Heritage Excellence Award program. Areas of recognition will be in: Heritage Tourism, Public Programming, Distinguished Volunteer and Distinguished Organizational Management. Watch for information and submit your candidates for consideration.

Kyle shared a brief summary of opportunities already being planned for the Oregon Heritage Conference in Pendleton in the spring of 2007. There will be programs in technical training, oral histories, archiving and educational opportunities as well as entertainment. Plan now to attend as OHC and OMA are partnering for this wonderful opportunity.

OTHER BUSINESS: None from the floor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: Irene gave opportunity for those present to share events, exhibits and happenings from their institutions. Irene also shared briefly about the upcoming WMA conference in Boise, Idaho. The theme is: *Frontier Without Limits*. She encouraged members to consider attending such events as a great way to improve our knowledge and network with other institutions. Next year's conference will be in Oakland, California. She also mentioned that OMA's Vice-President, David Porter is now serving as President of WMA and representing Oregon well. Irene mentioned the handouts available on the table and turned the time over for a few raffles.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

James Hamrick and Barbara Allen from the *Oregon Heritage Commission*

Cynthia Kirk from *Oregon Cultural Trust*

ADJOURNED: Irene adjourned the general business meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Connie Nice
OMA Secretary

Government Relations - Legislative News

NATIONAL ACTIVITY



STATE ACTIVITY

Museum Survey Deadline January 20

More than 40 museums had returned the 2006 Oregon Museums Survey by Thanksgiving. The survey, a joint effort of the Oregon Heritage Commission and the Oregon Museums Association, is collecting information that quantifies museums' impact on the state and identifies the major issues facing them.

"This is important information for us to share with the state's decisionmakers and to use in OMA organizational planning," said Katherine Huit, the chair of OMA's governmental relations committee. "Our museums collectively have a great impact on the state, and this is the one way we can determine what the impact is."

The information from the 2004 survey enabled OMA to deal successfully with issues that smaller museums anticipated with the passage of amendments to the Oregon Museums Grant program, she added.

A summary of the compiled data will be presented at the 2007 Oregon Heritage Conference in Pendleton, which will also be the spring meeting of the Oregon Museums Association. The information will be available to museums and scholars for research purposes, and assist OMA and the Heritage Commission in developing statewide museum programs.

The survey seeks data from museums for their fiscal years ending in 2006. For many museums, their fiscal year ends in December. Heritage Commission coordinator Kyle Jansson asked museums to return their surveys by January 20 so the information can be tallied and prepared for presentation at Heritage Conference.

To obtain a copy of the survey for your museum or for more information about the survey, contact Jansson at 503-986-0673 or heritage.info@state.or.us. It will also be posted at the Heritage Commission website at www.oregonheritage.org

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

2006 Year of the Museum!

Round out this *Year of the Museum* by contacting your Mayor, Legislative Representative, Congressional Representative or Senator and inviting them to visit your museum. Remind them of the contributions your museum makes in your community toward education, the economy, and historic preservation. In this *Year of the Museum* keep the importance of your organization on your representatives' mind both in Congress and in Oregon's Legislature! No one knows better than you what your museum contributes to our state's economy, tourism and educational resources. It only takes a few minutes to contact state and national politicians from your area and remind them about what your museum contributes to state and local resources. If you are unsure whom to contact for your area, visit www.Oregon.gov (or your local library), where you will find names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses. If you are interested in obtaining an Oregon Museums Fact Sheet to share with your legislator and others in your community, please contact Katherine Huit at 503.434.4123 or katherine.huit@sprucegoose.org.

Position Openings

AASLH SEEKS 2007 ALDERSON INTERNSHIP GRANT APPLICANTS The Alderson Internship Grant is awarded each year to an institutional member of AASLH to bring a graduate-student intern to their facility. Those institutions applying for the internship are required to submit a proposal giving background information about the historical organization, intended scope of work for the intern including timeline, and expected final product. The intern work should take place between May and September of 2007. A match of funds on a 1:3 basis is required.

Requirements

Eligibility is based on the institution being a member of AASLH with an annual operating budget of less than \$500,000. To ensure proper supervision of the intern, it is required that the institution has at least one full-time staff member to oversee the project. Institutions should show where they intend to find graduate students (area colleges/universities). The intern and host staff are required to write a final report on their project (no more than 400 words with image) including a final budget. The narrative will be edited for an article published in Dispatch.

Award/Finances

AASLH will award up to \$3,000 based on a 1:3 match by the host institution to cover the intern's salary.

Submitting An Application:

Applications are due in the AASLH office by 5:00 p.m., December 15, 2006. Applications should be mailed to Alderson Internship, AASLH, 1717 Church St., Nashville, TN 37203. The winner will be announced in early February. The funds will be released to the successful applicant after July 1, 2007.

COMING SOON . . .

oregonmuseums.org

A benefit of membership, this website will feature on-line meeting registrations, the ability to join or renew your membership, and the opportunity to post information about institutional events and exhibits.

Resources and Training

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA OFFERS COURSES

The Cultural Resource Management Program at the University of Victoria is offering three courses designed to strengthen important management skills for professionals in the cultural, museum, and heritage sectors - these courses use either immersion or distance formats to ensure that they are accessible to people who want to build their knowledge, skills and confidence in the context of busy working lives.

Planning For Heritage Building Maintenance with Sam Harris

January 29 - February 3, 2007, on campus. The creation and implementation of systematic, cost-effective and sustainable maintenance plans requires that the site manager be an active and knowledgeable participant in the process, with an understanding of the practical dynamics of ongoing and corrective maintenance operations along with the capacity to ensure that these requirements are integrated within the organization's policy and budgetary programs. This six-day immersion course for heritage building managers and policy makers explores both the technical and administrative requirements for heritage building maintenance and provides you with a practical opportunity to develop a viable maintenance manual for your heritage buildings.

Additional courses include:

Managing Cultural Organizations

January 15 to April 22, 2007 - a new offering in a distance education format, with Carrie Brooks Joiner.

Financial Management in Cultural Organizations

January 15 to 20, 2007 - on campus, over six intensive days, with Pauline Thompson.

Measuring Performance

March 12 to 17, 2007 - on campus, over six intensive days, with Paul Richard and Larry Lad.

Join colleagues from across North America and beyond in these courses - offered for credit toward the Diploma in Cultural Resource Management or as non-credit basis for professional development. Further information on the Cultural Resource Management Program and its courses is available at <http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/crmp>.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT COURSE OFFERED IN PORTLAND

Emporia State University's School of Library and Information Management will be offering a class in records management in January and February in Portland.

Records management is the process of creating and maintaining the records - i.e., the institutional and cultural memory - of an organization. Participants will learn about the life cycle of records, from creation through maintenance to final disposition, as well as how to develop effective policies, systems, and practices regarding these records.

The course will be held on two weekends - Jan. 19-21 and Feb. 23-25. Classes meet on Fridays from 6-9 p.m., Saturdays from 8:30 am - 5 p.m., and Sundays from 8:30 am - Noon on the Portland State University campus. The class may be taken for credit or non-credit.

Persons wishing to enroll should contact the SLIM-Oregon Director, Perri Parise, at 503-223-8280 or 800-236-7302, or by email to pparise@emporia.edu.

NOMINATION FORMS AVAILABLE FROM AASLH

The American Association for State and Local History invites submissions to the Leadership in History Awards Program. The program recognizes exemplary work completed by state or federal historical societies, institutions, or agencies; regional, county, or local historical societies, institutions, or agencies; specialized subject societies in related fields such as oral history, genealogy, folklore, archaeology, business history, railroad history, etc.; junior historical societies; privately owned museums or

foundations; individuals; and organizations outside the field of traditional historical agencies. Awards are given for general excellence, exhibits, public and educational programming, special projects, publications, multimedia, individual achievement, and preservation or restoration projects. Nominees need not be members of AASLH to qualify.

Nomination forms may be obtained by visiting the AASLH web site, www.aaslh.org, or by contacting the AASLH office by phone: (615) 320-3203; or e-mail: hawkins@aaslh.org. Nominations are due to state award representatives by March 1. The Oregon state team captain is Richard Engeman who can be contacted at info@oregonrediviva.com or 503-235-9032.

PARK SERVICE OFFERS GRANTS FOR NAGPRA ACTIVITIES

Applications for the National Park Service's National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act grants are now being accepted. Consultation/Documentation Grants provide support for consultation, collections documentation, and other activities and range from \$5,000 to \$75,000. The deadline is March 1.

NAGPRA Repatriation Grants of up to \$15,000 are awarded on an ongoing basis to defray the costs associated with the repatriation of Native American human remains and other cultural items.

For guidelines and application information visit the National Park Service at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/grants>.

OREGON 150 REPORT AVAILABLE FOR READING

Many of you received information in the past few months on the statewide project to listen to Oregonians about how the 2009 Sesquicentennial should be conducted. The final report, reflecting the input of over 400 Oregonians, includes the ideas, passions, and concerns they expressed and will assist the Oregon 150 Board as it prepares a strategic plan in the next few months. You will also have the opportunity to participate in that process.

At its Nov. 17 meeting, the Oregon 150 Board accepted the report. To get a sense of how Oregonians would like to commemorate this special anniversary, take a look at the basic report at www.oregon150.org ("refresh" the page once there).

AAM / IMLS OFFER IMPROVED MAP

The American Association of Museums (AAM) and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) recently announce changes to the Museum Assessment Program (MAP). MAP is a confidential, consultative process designed to help museums understand how they compare to standards and best practices in the museum field. Beginning this fall, the Museum Assessment Program will be offered directly to the field by AAM, supported by a cooperative agreement with IMLS. Rather than applying for a grant, museums will simply enroll with AAM for program participation.

Eligible museums will be accepted on a first come, first-served basis. Through this arrangement, AAM and IMLS are able to make MAP accessible to more museums:

- Museums with annual operating budgets of less than \$125,000 participate for free.
- Participation fees for museums with budgets over \$125,000 are lower than before.
- Museums need only be open 90 days per year instead of 120.

MAP also has a new annual application deadline of February 15.

"With the implementation of these changes to the Museum Assessment Program, many small museums can receive the support and guidance they need at no additional charge, allowing more and diverse American museums to participate," said Edward H. Able, Jr., AAM President & CEO. "AAM is looking forward to working with IMLS to offer this very worthy program to museums across the country."

Please visit www.aam-us.org/museumresources/map or call (202) 289-9118 for more details.

Culture

*rewards us
in countless ways.*



Ray Atkeson
Timberline Lodge, Moonlight, 1945
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The Cultural Trust supports 1,200 arts, heritage and humanities nonprofits across Oregon. When you give to one or more of these, remember that a year-end Trust match will earn you a 100% tax credit, reducing Oregon taxes owed.

1,200 reasons to give.

One very generous reward.

Claim yours at www.culturaltrust.org.

Oregon Cultural Trust

775 SUMMER STREET NE, STE 200 SALEM, OR 97301 (503) 986-0088 CULTURAL.TRUST@STATE.OR.US



Barbara Allen spoke about Oregon's upcoming Sesquicentennial



Cynthia Kirk updated members about the Oregon Cultural Trust



Outgoing President Irene Zenev urged members to contribute to the Oregon Cultural Trust

OMA Meeting, Hood River



Connie Nice, Coordinator, Hood River Museum and Jamie Webster, Fruit Foundation Historical Society, tell members about their partnership and the resulting educational exhibit.



Five Steps on our Journey

1. The Road to Hood River
2. The Road to our Educational Partnership
3. The Road to Partnership: The Dreams, The Challenges, The Lessons We've Learned
4. The Road to The Future: The Cultural Connection
5. The Road to Harvesting the Dreams: 40 days and 2000 dollars

Fruit Company Tour

CEO Scott Webster leads OMA members on a tour of the Fruit Company in Hood River.



Tracy Buckley won a fabulous Fruit Company gift basket!

It was a bit chilly in the cold storage area!

OMA members pause for a group photo after taking in the roof top view at the Fruit Company facility, which features a new exhibit created in collaboration with the Hood River Museum.



Fruit Foundation Museum



Orchard Tour

