



Welcome!

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April 2009 Newsletter

Denver's Old House Society is a new nonprofit dedicated to educating owners of old (50+ years) houses and helping them protect their neighborhoods.

- Our Founding Members**
- Donna Copeland
 - Stephen Evanoff
 - Lynn Gregory
 - Mona Goodwin
 - Julie Lee
 - Lilia Ponce
 - Mary Rae
 - Joyce Reitman
 - Barbara Sheldon
 - Millicent Turner
 - Judy & Paul Vorndran
 - Amy Zimmer

Dear Old-House Lover,

Since August 1, Colorado Day, homeowners and lovers of old houses have a very special nonprofit organization dedicated just to their needs and interests - Denver's Old House Society. Now, we want to invite you to join us as a **Founding Member**, enjoy all of the benefits of membership, and have the satisfaction and recognition as one of our first supporters.

It's easy to become a [founding member](#). Just click on Founding Member and go from there. We will send you a founding member card.

And, we have great news to share with you. Several very special people, including Kate and Ed Sultan, owners of the wonderful store [Modern Bungalow](#), are joining our founder, Elizabeth Wheeler, in a founding member challenge grant. They will donate dollar for dollar for each membership up to \$1,000. So, your membership dollars will double during this drive.

We have great news to share as we to to "press." Renowned Denver artist [Randy Hale](#) and Hale Gallery is donating 50 refrigerator magnets for us to give to people who become members at our upcoming Old House Fair. The magnets have miniature replicas of his exquisite pictures. Randy exquisitely portrays some of Denver's most distinctive architecture.

- Our Sponsors**
- All About Saving Heat Applewood Plumbing, Heating and Electric

Please help us in our work to educate owners of old houses and help them protect their beloved old Denver neighborhoods.

Crabtree Design
Nostalgic Homes
Northwest Denver
City Council District
No. One
Phoenix Window
Restoration
Style 1900
Xcel Energy Van
Camp's Quality
Floors.

Join Our Mailing List!

Denver's Old House Fair, May 2, Offers Old-House Owners Oodles of Information -- (Sssssh! A Secret will be Revealed - Old is the New Green!)

The Old House Fair is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, at the historic Masonic Temple Event Center, 3550 Federal Boulevard, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person, payable at the door or online. [Fair](#).

The Fair offers 12 workshops on subjects pertinent to old-house owners, exhibits of numerous companies and organizations with products or services for homes built over 50 years ago, and tours of the event center, for many years open only to Masons. Once again, at the "Ask an Architect" booth, architects are available for a free 15-minute consultation on space.

Three homeowners will discuss how they remodeled their kitchens which achieving the look of yesteryear.

A well-kept secret will be revealed at the Fair: Old houses are energy efficient. Old is the new green! A series of workshops, designated as the green track, will be offered.

Topics include:

- "Sustainable Preservation Opportunities - or The Inherent Green Benefits of Old Houses,"
- "Restoring and Maintaining Old Wood Windows,"
- "Photovoltaic Solar Panels - Making Electricity with the Sun in Older Neighborhoods,"
- "Cooling an Old House,"
- "Making "Green" Decisions when Remodeling or Expanding an Old House,"

- " Energy Efficiency an Xcel Energy Presentation."

Other workshops include:

- "Saving your Antique Wood Floors,"
- "Old Wallpaper Designs Popular Back Then and Available Now,"
- "Updating our Kitchens with the Look of Yesteryear, " (3 women tell how)
- "The Story of Restoring and Reconstructing a Porch and Porch Styles,"
- "Space Needs - In and Out of the Old House,"
- "Myth and Method of Historic Designation. "

Join architects Tim and Kris Hoehn, who recently completed a large historic restoration of the Temple, and center manager, John Layton, for a tour of the Historic Highland Masonic Temple Center, an 81 year-old treasured landmark, that was just recently opened to the public.

Volunteers from St. Dominic Church will be selling food all day.

If you would like an exhibit booth or be one of our sponsors, click here - [Booth/Sponsorship](#)

Sponsors for the Denver's Old House Fair so far include: All About Saving Heat, Applewood Plumbing, Heating and Electric, Crabtree Design, Northwest Denver City Council District No. One, Nostalgic Homes, Phoenix Window Restoration, Inc., Style 1900, Xcel Energy, and Van Camp's Quality Floors.

Volunteers are Needed, Wanted and Valued by Denver's Old House Society

Volunteers are needed to help with the upcoming Old House Fair, other educational programs, such as guided walking tours, advocacy efforts, and very important administrative support.

For the Old House Fair, we need help with check-in, monitoring workshops, set up, and administrative support. Volunteers receive free admission and an invitation to a reception for them, and the Old House Fair's exhibitors, workshop presenters, and sponsors.

Volunteers are needed for our very popular guided walking tours. Over 90 people attended the Whittier tour last month. Upcoming guided walking tours include: Washington Park, Saturday, May 16 and Curtis Park, Saturday, June 13. Details will be announced soon. If you want to attend or volunteer, sign up early because our events often sell out. Photo by Kevin Molick.

Gardening Information for Old Houses

Garden books and magazines and catalogs offer a wealth of information and delight. A few of note for older or historical homes include: "Italian Villas and Gardens" illustrated by Maxfield Parrish, numerous works by Gertrude Jekyll, and "Outside the Bungalow," by Paul Duchscherer and Douglas Keister.

Blueprint Denver/Zoning Workshops Coming to Your Neighborhood Soon!

A single-family brick home was demolished last year in this "neighborhood of stability" in northwest Denver. A large three-unit multiplex was built on the lot. Blueprint Denver, passed by Denver City Council in 2002 with scheduled implementation in 2003, was designed to preserve neighborhood character such as this lovely area near Thirty-Third Avenue and Julian Street. Blueprint Denver has yet to be implemented.

A series of workshops about Blueprint Denver and the new implementation plan are scheduled in several Denver neighborhoods in May. Northwest Denver City Councilman Rick Garcia is hosting a community forum about Blueprint Denver April 18. It is not clear at this time

whether the original Blueprint Denver passed in 2002 will be implemented or whether modifications -- such as increased density around neighborhood parks, Main Street areas, and streets such as Federal Boulevard will be made. Denver's Old House Society supports the implementation of Blueprint Denver as it was originally passed and wants to see it implemented now. [Workshops](#)

Old-Fashioned Plants

Familiar flowers from time-gone-by include: hollyhocks, pansies, cosmos, nasturtiums, sweet peas, stocks, iris (often called flags), moss roses, morning glories, bachelor's button, diathus (called pinks), aster, larkspur and zinnias. All are easy to grow in Colorado and come in a variety of colors. Common bushes include snowball, bridal wreath, lilac, forsythia, pussy willow and service berry.

Thought You Would Like to Know---

The [Central City Opera](#) Association's Antiques and Art Show and Sale hosts a 10 a.m. brunch Sunday, April 19, at the Wings Over the Rockies Museum at Lowry. Denver's renowned architect, David Tryba is the guest speaker. Tickets cost \$40 each and can be reserved by contacting sfs374@comcast.net

The local chapter of the American Institute of Architecture is hosting their popular Box City event for children, grades K-5, on Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Dora Moore Elementary School, 646 Corona Street. It is free, but donations are welcome. Box City is part of the Doors Open Denver events. For further information, go to www.DenverGov.org/DoorsOpenDenver.

The "greenest" house is an old house!

Denver's Old House Society strives to leave a legacy of charming Denver neighborhoods of well-preserved old-houses, sensitively maintained, jewels of the "Queen City of the Plains."

Sincerely,

Denver's Old House Society