

Welcome!

Founding Board of Directors

Jude Aiello
Elizabeth
Clayton
Kris Haglund
Gary Kleiner
Betty Luce
Suzanne
Minear
Kevin Molick
Carolyn
VanSciver
Elizabeth
Wheeler

Our Founding Members

Cheryl Barry
Carol Boigon
Tom & Linda Brunn
Doris Burd
Amy Carbone
Lucy Cook
Donna Copeland
Cathy Crabtree
Chris and Ellen
Daehnick
Ray and Pat Defa
Pamela Fischer
Stephen Evanoff
Martha Foxhaven
Garry Gordon
Michael & Patricia
Grace
Gertie Grant
Lynn Gregory

June 2009 Edition

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

Dear Old-House Lover,

Perhaps, there is nothing more lovely when it comes to old houses than an old house in the month of June, with peonies and roses in full bloom!

Many people are joining Denver's Old House Society as **Founding Members**. They recognize the importance of the mission of our organization and appreciate the benefits of membership. We sure hope you will join if you haven't already. For those of you who can, we would love for you to come forward and issue another founding members' challenge grant of \$500 or more. Our first members' challenge grant from Modern Bungalow owners Kate and Ed Sultan, along with our founder Elizabeth Wheeler, matched \$1,000 of memberships. Now, the Sultans and Elizabeth challenge others to come forward for future membership challenge grants. If you are interested, please contact us at information@denversoldhousesociety.org.

Volunteers are always welcome. **Volunteers** to help with databases and administrative projects are particularly needed.

Also, we continue to expand our board of directors. We want that governing body to reflect the neighborhoods and people of Denver. We need representation from people of all ages, backgrounds, and geographic points throughout the city. Currently, the board could use members who live east of Colorado Boulevard and south of Sixth Avenue. It would be most helpful to have a lawyer and an accountant on the board. If you are interested, please contact us at information@denversoldhousesociety.org.

Old wood windows can last for over 100 years! Replacement windows may last 20 years with any luck.

S. Gregory
 Mona Goodwin
 Randy Hale
 Mary Hamilton
 Carla Huston
 Rob & Jennifer Jess
 MeriLou Johnson
 Steve Kite
 Mark & Leigh
 LaFon
 Julie Lee
 Jan & Joe Leone
 Sherry Liberato
 Kevin Loewen
 Beverly Longe
 Bonnie McCartney
 M. Masterson
 David Mathews
 Dan Milne
 Molly Parrish
 Jody Phillips
 Harry & Shirley
 Plummer
 Stan & Leslie
 Pollard
 Lilia Ponce
 Marilyn Quinn
 Mary Rae
 Catherine Rands
 Joyce Reitman
 Michael Ritchie
 Brian Shaw
 Barbara Sheldon
 Tom & Jackie Short
 Tom & Laurie
 Simmons
 Michelle Sturm
 Victoria Thomas
 Terry Tomsick
 Millicent Turner
 Ann Valentine
 Judy & Paul
 Vorndran
 Barbara Yost
 Amy Zimmer

Our
 Sponsors

This Coming Saturday, June 13, Denver's Old House Society Presents a Guided Walking Tour in the 19th Century Curtis Park Neighborhood Near Downtown

A 19th Century Home in Curtis Park

Photo by Gary Kleiner

Spend part of a lovely Saturday, June 13, on a guided walking tour, with Curtis Park author and historian Bill West, followed by light refreshments. Rich in its history and its Victorian-era architecture, much of Curtis Park still stands as it did in the late nineteenth century. Two tour times are scheduled: The first is from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and the other from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Each tour starts at 27th and Champa. Refreshments will be served after each tour. To register for the \$10 event go to [Curtis Park](#) or call 303-916-4359.

Upcoming Tours

Saturday, October 10, Harkness Heights Bungalow Tour - northwest Denver

Old wood windows need periodic maintenance. Check out our referral section for local companies that do this work. [Windows](#)

Want to See an Award Winning Kitchen Featured on HGTV?

Fischer Kitchen

Photo courtesy of Pam Fischer

Well, you can on Saturday, June 27 when Denver's Old House Society hosts a brunch at the Fischer Home in the West City Park Neighborhood! Our last brunch sold out, so get your tickets early. The cost is \$25 per person. [Brunch](#)

Kitchen, bath and interior designer Pam Fischer and her husband Wendell will be our hosts. Their kitchen was featured on the "Generation Renovation Show" on HGTV. Pam and her company [Design a la Carte](#) have won four "Restoration for Living Awards"

All About Saving Heat and Windows, Applewood Plumbing, Heating and Electric, 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 Li

from Historic Denver.

During the brunch, Pam will tell us about the restoration of her home.

Pamela is a founding member and her company is a founding sponsor of Denver's Old House Society. Her house and gardens are gorgeous. Mark your calendar and tell all of your friends and family members. It will be a real treat.

Unlike new windows, parts of old wood windows can be replaced. When new windows fail, they are ripped out and taken to the dump. If a part of an old wood window is beyond repair, a new part can be made.

A Note About The Old Wood Windows---

(One of our members shared this note with us. Her old house is for sale and potential buyers and some Realtors have been critical about the old windows. The member knows that often people think old windows are not energy efficient. So, she hung this note up next to the information about the house.)

Except for the windows in the kitchen, all of the windows were custom made, on site, with wood from Colorado's old-growth forest.

The windows will easily last for more than 100 years.

The windows are very energy efficient. The monthly Xcel bill for this house is \$98!

Periodic, reasonably priced maintenance is required. This cost is far, far less than new windows. The owner will gladly give referrals to competent tradespeople for this work.

For further information about old wood windows and energy efficiency, go to www.oldhousejournal.com and read "Embracing Energy Efficiency" in the September/October 2007 edition by Noelle Lord.

Double-hung windows can be opened from the bottom and the top! During the hot summer months, opening both the top and bottom window will greatly help cool an old house.

New Blueprint Zoning Code Draft Available for Review and Comment - and News about Solar Access

The new zoning code draft is now available and ready for review. Denver has even designed a new Web site for the document. [New zoning code draft](#) The draft is based on a new zoning code, Blueprint Denver, which was passed by Denver City Council in 2002, with implementation scheduled for 2003. The code has not been adopted yet.

Now, the Blueprint Denver code draft is being presented to the public for comment during the next couple of months. How much of the original code that had been voted on in 2002 will actually occur remains to be seen.

You can contact your local city councilperson to review the map for your neighborhood and give comment.

We have learned through one of our members that the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) has a contract with Denver to do a study about the zoning code update and acceptable solar access. The study is expected to begin this month and completed by September. Then, the Denver Zoning Code Task Force and the Community Planning Department could decide if solar access is acceptable under the new code update or if further revisions to the code update are warranted. The task force and department also could conclude that a separate solar access ordinance is needed.

Next Old House Fair Scheduled for September 12



Hundreds of people attended the May 2, 2009 Old House Fair. Over 30 exhibitors were available to answer questions about their products or services for old houses. Photo by Kevin Molick

The next Old House Fair is scheduled for Saturday, September 12. It will be held on another historic site, the Officers' Quarters at Lowry, which is now part of the Stanley British Primary School, 350 Quebec, on the Lowry campus. Exhibitor and sponsorship information is available. [Old House Fair](#) A group of the Society's members are now planning workshops for the event.

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