



Welcome!

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October 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,

Wow! We have some exciting news to share!
We have received an award from "Westword"
for the Best Home Tour!!

Best Home Tours
Denver's Old House Society
www.denveroldhousesociety.org

"Older homes are typically loaded with character, and some people love nothing better than to stroll through a neighborhood and check out the architecture. For them, there is Denver's Old House Society and its guided walking tours. The outings are hosted by Denver homeowners and designed by the nonprofit's board members (who collectively have architectural, construction, historic preservation and zoning experience), and there are refreshments afterward. There's no better way for the old-house lover to spend an afternoon. It's good to be home. "

We have two exciting tours coming up. This

Gertie Grant
Lynn Gregory
S. Gregory
Mona Goodwin
Randy Hale
Mary Hamilton
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Victoria Thomas
Terry Tomsick
Jessie Tramutolo
Millicent Turner
Victoria Vans
Ann Valentine
Judy & Paul Vorndran
Claire Walter
Doug Walter
Mark Wessley
Bill West
Will White
Barbara Wright

Saturday, we will be in northwest Denver's Harkness Heights neighborhood. See details below. Saturday, November 14, we will be in "**The**" Denver neighborhood, Country Club. More details will be coming on our Web site and in the next enewsletter.

The Old House Fair was wonderful. We know, because a special founding member Amy Carbone, tabulated all of the evaluation forms from the 12 workshops! A special thank you to everyone who helped, our wonderful sponsors and the 30 exhibitors. Nowhere else can an owner of an old house in Colorado find specific information, products and services just for old houses.

Look for us on Facebook, and become a Fan of the Denver's Old House Society page.

Our free [reference and referral](#) section on our Web site is a wealth of information for owners of old houses.

Don't forget our "Favorite Old-House Award." Nominate your's today. You and the homeowners could be honored at our annual awards dinner, scheduled for late January. [Favorite Old House](#)

Preparing for Ol' Man Winter - Tip#1:

October is a great month to prepare your old house for the chilly, wet and sloppy days of winter. A little work done now in the glorious weather of Indian summer is far more enjoyable than dealing with a major house problem in the grip of winter.

**Harkness Heights Neighborhood
Guided Walking Tour - Bungalows,
Denver History, and an Original
Home Theater!**

Barbara Yost
Amy Zimmer

Help Us Help Homeowners of
Old Houses
Contribute Now

[Donate](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)



*The Victorian
Theater*

Photo by Suzanne Minear

Spend part of a lovely Saturday afternoon, Oct. 10, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on a guided walking tour in the enchanted northwest Denver neighborhood of Harkness Heights. The cost is \$10 person. Pre-registration is required by contacting Denver's Old House Society, Inc. at 303-916-4359 or signing up at [Harkness](#)

[Heights](#). The tour's sponsor is Modern Bungalow, a unique store in the University Hills Plaza Shopping Center, which features furniture, lighting, accessories, pottery, and floor coverings for today's handcrafted home. [Modern Bungalow](#)

Please note: Although snow is predicted in the afternoon, we will still do the tour. We are only going a few blocks, so we won't be far from the Victorian Theater, our start and end place. Sign in will be inside the theater. After the tour, we will have refreshments inside the [theater](#). Owners Wade and Lorraine Wood will give a tour of the theater and tell its history. Also joining us in the theater will be Northwest Denver natives, Denver City Auditor Dennis Gallagher, and Duchess Iacino Scheitler, the wife of the late Denver City Councilman, Bill Scheitler, who will share their memories of the theater and neighborhood.

The tour will focus on architecture of bungalows, cottages and Denver Squares and the area's distinctive history, including the goals of early Italian families to live in this neighborhood. The tour will be on the east side of the neighborhood from Hooker Street to Green Ct. Members of the Harkness Heights Neighborhood Association will be on hand to discuss what's happening now in Harkness Heights.

More information about Harkness Heights, one of the few R1 zoned neighborhoods in northwest Denver, can be found on our Web site.

Preparing for Ol' Man Winter - Tip #2: Windows

- From the outside, examine window frames for signs of peeling, separation or drying.
- Scrape all areas clean, paint and re-caulk.
- Take down screens, wash windows, and

hang storm windows.

- On the inside, examine frames for cracking, peeling and spider webs, which indicate areas where airflow is present.
- Clean out tracks and spider webs.
- If you have metal frames, clean the metal and dry it.
- Seal with new caulking if necessary.
- Add weather stripping where needed.
- For a tight seal, lock windows.

Join Us for a Foreboding Dinner in a Spooky Victorian, One of Denver's Oldest and Scariest!

Saturday, October 24, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. join us for a fearsome dinner and shocking discussion about the restoration of a large Victorian home with other old-house lovers. Rumor has it that frightfully shocking former inhabitants will be attending, too. Reservations are required. Costume attire is optional. [Look Out!](#) The cost is \$40 per person. Lots of cats inhabit this house.

Preparing for Ol' Man Winter - Tip #3: Roof

- Inspect flashing around chimneys and in valleys. Re-caulk if necessary.
- Nail down any loose shingles.

Lisa Fouts Coordinates Lots of Fun Volunteer Opportunities



We are pleased to announce that Lisa Kelley Fouts, who lives in 1947 ranch, has stepped up to volunteer as our

volunteer coordinator. You will be hearing from her about magnificent opportunities to choose from, such as:

- Advocacy committee volunteer - for those passionate about zoning and neighborhoods,
- Walking tour committee - for those ardent about architecture, history and Denver's unique character,
- Special events volunteers - awards dinner, brunches, etc. etc. ,
- We're still looking for that database volunteer!

To get connected, contact Lisa at information@denversoldhousesociety.org

Preparing for Ol' Man Winter - Tip #4: Hoses and water valves

- Unscrew hoses from outside faucets.
- Store hoses in a dry area.
Repair dripping faucets.
- Inside the house, make sure all water valves can be turned. If they can't, spray with DW40 and try again. Never force a valve to turn.

**Give the Perfect Holiday Gift - A
Denver Old House - Really, You
Can!**



Two small holiday houses with membership certificates inside sit on a mantel. A larger one is in the dining room full of holiday cookies.

Hand-painted, signed and numbered, our Denver old houses come in two sizes with a choice of gifts inside: Our small house, approximately 6 inches tall, comes with a genuine Denver Old House Society Founding Member certificate of any level, and our big house, approximately 10 inches high, is packed full of holiday sugar cookies made by elves! The small house's suggested donation is \$5

plus the cost of a [membership](#). The big house's suggested donation is \$20. The houses will be available for pick up starting Saturday, November 28, at two convenient locations: Modern Bungalow at Yale and Colorado Boulevard and Nostalgic Homes Real Estate, 3737 W. 32nd Avenue. Order now until November 14 [holiday houses](#)

Thought You Would Like To Know

Congress Park Historic Speaker Series, Wednesday, September 30, 7 p.m., National Jewish Hospital, Heitler Hall, 1400 Jackson, free. ~ October 28, 2009. Working With A Contractor. What do you need to know to make that renovation project a positive experience for both you and the contractor who turns your dreams into reality. Learn about interviewing contractors, writing contracts, paying for work done, - the in and outs of working with contractors.

HISTORIC WHITTIER HOUSE TOUR
Sunday, October 18, 2009
1:00PM-6:00PM [info](#)

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