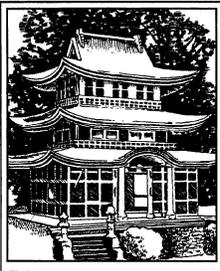


SAVE OUR
SEMINARY



AT FOREST GLEN

SOS NEWS

Summer/Fall 2014
Vol. 23 No. 3

9615 Dewitt Drive #68
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-589-1715

info@saveourseminary.org
www.saveourseminary.org
www.facebook.com/saveourseminary

SOS News is the newsletter of Save Our Seminary, the nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the historic National Park Seminary and engaging the public through education and advocacy since 1989.

25 Years of Preserving the Past for the Future

Save the Date

Save Our Seminary
25th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday November 2, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.
National Park Seminary Ballroom
Invitation to follow



*25 years of preserving the
past for the future*

SOS is excited to be celebrating 25 years of advocacy, preservation, and education at the National Park Seminary. Come and see highlights of our challenges and successes, release of our revised book, and a surprise unveiling. Then toast our past accomplishments and plans for the future! Watch for your invitation soon.

New Book Release

As part of our 25th anniversary celebration, Save Our Seminary will release a limited number of beautifully illustrated copies of our updated and expanded pictorial history book. Formerly entitled *Enchanted Forest Glen: The Endangered Legacy of National Park Seminary Historic District*, the book has been fittingly renamed ***National Park Seminary at Forest Glen: An Enduring Legacy***. As the name implies, this second edition brings readers up to date and covers all of the changes to National Park Seminary since the Army's abandonment of the site.

With an additional chapter full of **color** photos, expanded historical information, and a fresh perspective, our book is now as revitalized as the historic district!

This limited edition book will debut at the SOS 25th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, November 2. Copies will be available by advance purchase to pick up at the event or to be mailed, and also will be available to purchase at the event. Please watch for your invitation – coming soon – for more information on ordering the book.

Good News on the Adopt-A-Maiden Campaign

SOS is pleased to report that our primary sculpture preservation priority, funding for the Porch of the Maidens, is close to reaching its initial goal. As of press time, we have a total of nine \$1,000 donations or pledges to adopt a maiden. Our \$10,000 goal is now only one maiden short!



The maidens are the 10 female figures that serve as the pillars of the Aloha House porch. They are in need of paint removal, internal metal repair, and repainting, a costly undertaking. We feel we are close enough now to our funding goal to begin seeking bids for the work.

Each adopter will be recognized with a small plaque above a maiden statue as well as on the SOS sculpture plaque in the main building lobby. Some donors have made their contribution a memorial to a family member connected with the historic campus. The residents of Aloha House are also sponsoring a maiden.

You can still help save the Seminary maidens by making a tax-deductible donation to adopt the last maiden for \$1,000, or you can consider a separate or smaller donation to the project, as we anticipate that the total cost for the work may very well exceed \$10,000.

In addition, we will continue to restore other sculpture, some in place or still in storage, as we are able to raise funds. Donations may be made on our website at www.saveourseminary.org/support-sos or by mailing a check, designating it for sculpture restoration.

NPS on Television

In August, Save Our Seminary was delighted to once again be the subject of the Cable County Montgomery (CCM) *Paths to Present* television show. A lot has changed on the property since the program first filmed National Park Seminary in 2000 to report on the efforts of SOS to preserve the property.

The cable television crew joined SOS members and guests for the May monthly tour led by dedicated tour guide Frank Riley. The program captured the story of the four stages of the National Park Seminary beginning with Ye Forest Inne to its evolution as a finishing school for girls and subsequent rehabilitation center for soldiers and ended with its current life as a residential community.

Clips from the tour and photographs from the SOS archives are included in this 15-minute presentation. Links to both the 2000 and 2014 programs have been posted on our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/saveourseminary>. We hope you can find 30 minutes to watch both videos and celebrate how far National Park Seminary has come in 14 years!

The Gym Is Jumping with Activity

Visible progress continues weekly on the gymnasium as it is being renovated into 12 condominiums. After being almost completely lost to deterioration,

the front façade of the building is being brought back to its original look section by section.

A new front door in a close-to-the-original design has been installed, and the new wood base for the decorative metal trim around the arched windows is in place.

The decorative balustrade or railing above the center windows has the pedestals in place, awaiting the balusters.

In the rear of the gym, the windows of the original solarium have been replaced with energy efficient exact reproduction windows. Above and outside the room, the pedestals for the two levels of balustrades are ready for balusters.

Up on top of the building, a new slate roof is being installed. No more leaks!

Meanwhile inside, the framing for the upper level condominiums creates a labyrinth of studs that continues up new stairs to another level.

By spring, if not before, the front doors should be open for business to sell the condominiums.

A Fine Education

Join SOS on **Wednesday, October 8, at 7:30 p.m.** for our next program in the ballroom. This program will focus on the educational philosophy and academic program of National Park Seminary and how it transitioned to a junior college. You'll hear how students learned, what subjects they studied, and how their curriculum fit in with national trends in women's education.



Front door of gym



Gym sunroom with balustrades

SOS Annual Meeting

The October 8 program will start with the brief Annual Meeting for Save Our Seminary. The 2015 work plan and budget will be presented, board members elected, and minor revisions to the bylaws voted on. We appreciate a RSVP by email or phone if you can attend the program and meeting.