



# SOS NEWS

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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*

## Mane Event a Roaring Success: Lions Return Home

On Sunday, January 12th, SOS celebrated the return of the two zinc lions Theo and Leo to their original pedestals on the fountain circle with an unveiling for members and National Park Seminary residents. There were audible "oohs and ahhs" when the tarps came off.



Theo and Leo are now restored to their original condition and bronze paint color as they were when the Seminary girls saw them. Guests were invited into the NPS Community Room to celebrate with refreshments and hear about the sculptures SOS plans to restore next.

The expensive restoration of the lions would not have been possible without the financial support of generous donors, many of whom attended the event and received a framed, hand-

colored historic photo of the lions as a token of their contribution. Donors of \$500 or more are also recognized on a plaque outside the SOS museum/office in the lobby of the main building.

## Next Sculpture Priorities

The SOS Sculpture Committee has determined the next sculptures to be restored are:

- the Aloha House Porch of the Maidens
- a pair of cast stone lions
- Hiawatha
- a carved stone bench

None of these can be done, however, until funds are raised, and sculpture restoration is expensive. To kick off the fundraising, SOS started an Adopt-A-Maiden campaign of \$1,000 per maiden. There are a total of ten maidens, and we have raised \$3,000 already, including \$1,000 from SOS. Donors will be honored with a small plaque above a maiden statue as well as on the main honor plaque.

You can help save the Seminary sculpture by making a tax-deductible donation of any amount via our website at [www.saveourseminary.org/support-sos](http://www.saveourseminary.org/support-sos) or by mailing a designated donation to our address above.

## Events for 2014

March will be the beginning of the SOS tour and event season. Guided tours will be conducted as usual on the fourth Saturday of the months March through November, plus an extra tour on the first Sunday in August.

Here are the topics for our fifth year of quarterly educational programs in the ballroom:

### ***All About the Ballroom*** ***Thursday, March 13, 7:30 pm***

Hear the history of the Ballroom building from the beginning of its construction in 1925 through its renovation in 2009. Learn who's who among the sculptures in the niches and what happened to Big Bertha.

### ***Movie Night*** ***Saturday, July 12, 7:30 pm***

Join us for popcorn as we enjoy Universal Studio's 1940 adaptation of *The House of the Seven Gables* starring NPS graduate Margaret Kies Lindsay (class of 1932) in her standout career role. The film also features well-known actors Vincent Price and George Sanders.

### ***A Fine Education*** ***Wednesday, October 8, 7:30 pm***

We will examine the educational philosophy and academic program established by the Seminary founders. Discover how NPS students learned and what subjects they studied. We'll trace the academic transformation of National Park Seminary into National Park College as women's education evolved.

### ***SOS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*** ***Sunday, November 2, 3:00 pm***

Join us for a celebration honoring 25 years of Save Our Seminary's

preservation and educational efforts with highlights of the challenges and successes. Come and toast our past accomplishments and future plans!

Details about the tours and the programs are on our website. Each program will be announced again to all members as the dates approach.

In addition, SOS will sponsor another special event this year—a ***House Tour on Sunday, May 4***. This tour will feature several of the residential units and houses at the Seminary to show how the historic buildings have been adapted for modern living while retaining their historic integrity. Save the date now—your invitation with details will be sent in April.

The house tour will require a lot of volunteers to direct the flow of visitors, provide information, and check tickets, among other duties. Volunteers will have an opportunity to visit all the houses. If you would like to help at this event, please call SOS at 301-589-1715 or email [info@saveourseminary.org](mailto:info@saveourseminary.org).

## **Past Programs on YouTube**

If you couldn't attend our last two programs in 2013, or any of the other past programs, you can still see them! They are listed on our website and can be viewed via YouTube thanks to SOS former board member Steve Devoney who videotapes almost all of the programs for us.

The latest two programs cover the Korean War years at the Seminary and the fashions of the Seminary students from the late 1890's to the early 1940's, including a live model fashion show.

## Treasures in the Archives

Our cold snowy winter is inspiration for the treasure we want to share in this issue—photos of the Seminary girls who experienced winter at NPS circa 1920, from the album of alumna Eunice Van Dyne Fiske.

The girls kept warm with their fashionable fur coats.



A popular form of recreation at the school during the winter months was sleigh rides. With horses on campus and enough open land, it was an easy way to more comfortably experience the snow.



The sleigh ride tradition carried on until at least 1940 when on Sunday afternoons if it snowed, the girls would take a sleigh ride around the campus.

## Site Happenings

This winter's weather has not stopped progress on the gymnasium. The north wall was quite unstable in the center but has been almost completely rebuilt. The south wall on the Linden Lane side is now draped for repair work.

The center section of the front façade has been outfitted with new windows in the exact configuration of the original windows, which were too damaged to restore.

On the lower level of the gym, the Army-era walls and floors have been removed down to the studs and the dirt. The two center rows of slender columns are now more visually prominent.

Even more interesting on the lower level is the swimming pool with its beautiful tile, completely uncovered and ready to be designed as the living area for a condo unit. There will be a total of twelve condo units in the gymnasium.



Work on the Spanish mission house has also continued, and the exterior is looking quite striking with its restored windows painted burgundy against the white stucco walls.



Spanish mission house

The mission and the Swiss chalet are both for sale if you are looking for a unique house to live in!