Father’s Day will be 100 years old on June 20, 2010, and it was a Spokane woman, Sonora Smart Dodd, who had the idea. Now known as the “Mother of Father’s Day,” she was 16 years old when her mother died in 1898, leaving her father William Jackson Smart to raise Sonora and her five younger brothers on a remote farm in eastern Washington.

In 1909, Sonora heard a Mother’s Day sermon in church and she was inspired by her own family’s story to seek equal recognition for all fathers. She took the idea to the Spokane Ministerial Alliance, suggesting June 5th, her father’s birthday, be the day of honor. But the pastors needed more time to prepare sermons, so, June 19, 1910, was chosen and sermons in praise of fathers were given throughout the city.

Not until 1924 did the celebration come to national attention, when President Calvin Coolidge officially recognized Father’s Day. Today the holiday is celebrated from Antigua to Zimbabwe in over 50 countries around the world.

At the Spokane YMCA, a two-ton granite boulder displays a pair of plaques commemorating Sonora Smart Dodd’s pivotal role in founding Father’s Day.

The Historic Dodd House

The home was built in 1913 in what is now the East Central neighborhood for Spokane insurance agent John Bruce Dodd, and his wife, Sonora Smart Dodd, a Spokane artist, poet, civic benefactor, philanthropist, and the founder of Father’s Day.

From 1913 to 1950, the Craftsman-style bungalow was owned by the Dodd family and gained importance as a fine example of its type and as the home of Sonora Smart Dodd. The Dodd House was listed on the Spokane Register of Historic Places on July 7, 2008.

For more information and a schedule of Father’s Day Centennial activities, check online at spokanepreservation.org or fathersdaybirthplace.com.
SPA President’s Message

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as President. A special thanks to Joanne Moyer, my mentor, who just completed her term as Eastern Washington Representative, National Trust for Historic Preservation. She deserves more accolades than I can give here.

In 1987 my husband Larry and I bought an “old” house and that was my start in preservation. I had been a Campbell House docent for a few years when I was invited to become a member of the Preservation Committee at the MAC. After completing two terms there I became involved with the group starting SPA and served as the first chair of the Advocacy Committee. Since then I have been a member of several committees, and chaired the Gala in 2009. I served as Vice-President last year and want to thank Kelly Lordan for the great example he set as our unflappable president.

Kris Roark is our new treasurer. Her accounting background will be a great asset. She is a native of Spokane and has been a member of SPA for several years. Jerry Baldwin, who retired after many years in various management positions, agreed to become our second member-at-large. He lives in a unique historic home in what he describes as a “Norman Rockwell neighborhood.” Darrin Griechen, a relative newcomer to preservation volunteerism, has already proposed some exciting plans as Advocacy Committee chair. His job as a professor of architecture gives him special insight into preservation issues.

Kathryn Burk-Hise is our new Executive Coordinator. She will keep the SPA office organized, recruit volunteers, research projects, help increase our income, and become the “face of SPA” in the community, as volunteers cycle in and out of board positions. This sounds like a huge job, but we are confident Kathryn can do it.

Congratulations to Paul Mann, a local preservationist, who has recently become president of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation. He will also replace Joanne Moyer on the NTHP, and is co-chairing the organizing committee for the 2012 NTHP convention in Spokane.

In the coming year I hope to start a list of Spokane properties that we all want to see preserved. Some of these properties may need our help and others may just be there for us to admire. I would also like to see us come up with a group of advisors who can be called upon when we have a problem that our collective wisdom cannot solve. We need to work more closely and collaboratively with our elected officials, and the City/County HPO, Kristen Griffin, and the volunteers on the Landmarks Commission.

While we have made some advances in raising awareness of how historic preservation serves the community, we need to do more to make the general public pay attention to our heritage.

Linda Milsow

Tell Us What You Think

Accuracy is our goal but if you see something we need to correct, please let us know.

We welcome your comments and story ideas too. Contact the Communications Chair or any Board member, listed above.
April Doing It Project

Historic Name:  
2nd Church of Christ Scientist  
Built: 1922  
Architect: George Foote Dunham  
Style: Neo-Classical

Future of SPA Advocacy

by Darrin Griechen

Former Advocacy Chair, Matt Cohen, and I have worked out a strategic plan for moving SPA into a more proactive role regarding issues of preservation and the quality of our city’s built environment. We have learned a lot from our past successes as well as from our failures and we wanted to capture and leverage that knowledge to be even more effective in the future. With that in mind, we have developed a set of protocols to follow when engaging issues of advocacy and have set out a framework for better engagement of SPA members in advocacy projects.

In the coming months, we’ll focus on implementing the Advocacy Committee Action Protocol and several public policy efforts. These include monitoring and advocating for preservation of endangered buildings and shoring up the City’s demolition ordinance. We’ll also track the issue of surface parking lots, which have contributed to the loss of historic buildings, and seek changes to regulations where needed. We will ensure protection of our historic landscapes and do our part to ensure the city implements the principles and goals laid out in the Comprehensive Plan. Finally, we’ll develop contacts within the community and with other organizations with shared interests and recruit members for teams to tackle important tasks in support of these efforts.

Soon we will be making a call to our members to join us. If you have questions, email me at dgriechen@gmail.com.
THE SARAANAC BUILDING: WHEN PLATINUM
by Jane Barry

Last spring, the U.S. Green Building Council awarded a LEED Platinum certificate to Spokane’s Saranac Building. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and the Platinum rating is the highest level of recognition for green building. In fact, only 13 buildings have earned it and the Saranac is the only one in eastern Washington.

The Saranac is also a registered historic building, listed in the East Downtown National Historic District (2003) and in the Spokane Register of Historic Places (2006). It is a bridge between past and future, linking a piece of Spokane’s history, successfully preserved, and sustainable building practices.

IN THE BEGINNING
But it began its life in 1909, built by H.H. Hutton as a Single Room Occupancy Hotel, an SRO, in downtown Spokane during an economic boom. On the street level, it housed small businesses such as City Hand Laundry, run by Japanese immigrants from 1934–1959, and North Coast Supply Company, which sold imported Asian foods. Cooks, waiters, brick layers, carpenters, and railroad laborers rented the 16 modest single rooms on the second, third, and fourth floors. Just 11’6” by 16’3”, with a sink, a radiator, and a built-in closet, each opened onto a wide hallway. The windows looked out to the front and rear of the building and two shared bathrooms in the southwest corners served each floor.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE
“Reduce, reuse, recycle” goes the mantra of the environmental movement. The National Trust for Historic Preservation puts it this way: “Reuse, reinvest and retrofit.”

Reuse, because, “The greenest building is the one already built.” The truth is the energy expended in demolishing an old building and constructing a new one is far more than what it takes to refurbish an existing structure. Turning a building to rubble destined for the landfill wastes its “embodied energy,” the total amount of energy used in the construction of a building: the harvesting, extracting, processing, manufacturing, transporting and labor associated with all its components and materials.

Retrofitting existing buildings takes advantage of their sturdy materials and older, inherently energy-efficient strategies such as thick walls, windows that open, and natural daylighting.

GOING PLATINUM
So, how do you turn a solid 100-year-old building into a LEED Platinum winner? Rod Butler, of Zeck Butler Architects, outlined the steps they took. The watchwords were reuse and recycle. By reusing 85 percent of the original building, they eliminated the need for all-new materials. Through recycling and reuse, 90 percent of construction waste was diverted from landfills. The construction incorporated 20 percent recycled materials, including steel, acoustical ceiling panels, carpeting and denim insulation. Another 27 percent
MEANS GREEN

of materials, including lumber, concrete and ceramic tile, came from local sources.

Water use was reduced by 47 percent over conventional construction through reuse, low-flow fixtures and waterless urinals and the rooftop garden uses a catchment system for recycling rain water and the vegetation helps cool the building.

Energy use was reduced by 86 percent through solar collection, a ground source heat pump, direct digital controls and daylighting. Solar panels generate 14 percent of the building’s power and other power needed is from 100 percent renewable sources.

BACK TO THE FUTURE

The Saranac is a beautiful example of how to do it right. Owner Jim Sheehan, a longtime community activist and environmentalist, set its rehabilitation in motion when it was accepted to Spokane’s Register of Historic Places in 2006.

The building’s original floor plan was not drastically altered. Transoms above the storefronts were restored and wood casements and moldings of the upper story windows were refurbished and reused. Even new additions such as the elevator shaft and solar panels do not disrupt the front façade of the century-old building.

Today, where the steam from the City Hand Laundry used to rise, you can stop for a meal at Isabella’s Restaurant, take in a movie at the Magic Lantern Theater and see what’s hanging at the Saranac Art Gallery. Garbed in sustainable green and bejeweled in LEED platinum, the Saranac is all dressed up for the 21st century.
Historic & Heritage Tree Preservation Program

Nominate a Tree Today!

Spokane’s historic and heritage tree preservation program was established as a way for citizens to officially recognize special and significant trees in the community. The City of Spokane believes that by providing this recognition we stay connected to the important historic events that have shaped our past. The program was established in 1998 and procedures to implement the program were established in 2009. SPA was directly involved in the inception, creation and completion of this historic landscapes preservation program.

A heritage or a historic tree or a collection of trees is designated by the City’s Urban Forest Tree Committee based on the following key criteria:

• Has historical significance to a person, place, or event.
• Has attained significant size in height, caliper, or canopy spread for its age and species.
• Have special aesthetic qualities for its species.
• Is prominently visible to the public, along major roads, or public places.
• Possesses rare horticulture value.

To nominate a tree or group of trees for historic or heritage designation:
Contact the Urban Forestry Program at (509) 363-5495, or online at spokaneforestry.org. You may also review City of Spokane Municipal Code, (http://www.spokanecity.org/services/documents/smcc/) Section 12.02.916.

Susan Traver would be happy to help you with any aspect of the nomination process. (smtraver@yahoo.com)
Spokane’s Littlest Preservationists
by Suzanne Schreiner

Whether it’s swimming, or sailing, or learning to speak a foreign language, we carry the lessons we learn as children into our adult lives. So, why not historic preservation?

At Garfield School, Mrs. Elliott’s third graders got a lesson on Spokane’s “Age of Elegance,” the period from 1900–1914, using the book, Spokane: A City with Historical Style (by Margaret Krause French and Nancy Gale Compau, drawings by Gary Zagelow), some 2200 copies of which SPA donated to elementary schools throughout the area.

One look at their drawings is proof of how much the children learned about their city’s architectural heritage—the Tudor, Colonial Revival, and Prairie style homes they live in and walk by every day.

Thank you, Mrs. Elliott, for helping grow Spokane’s next generation of preservationists!

If you know a teacher who would like a copy of the book, please call Joanne Moyer at 747-1001. Spokane libraries also have copies available to borrow.

Rethink your ink!
Xerox ColorQube
Copier/Printer/Scanner

- 90% less waste than laser printing
- Print in color for the same cost as B&W

For beautiful and cost effective color printing, call:

xofficetech.com
755-8326
It might seem a little early to be marking dates in your 2012 calendar but October 30-November 3, 2012 are key ones for Spokane preservationists because that’s when the National Preservation Conference comes to town. Chosen by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the 2012 conference will be the first held in Spokane.

The meeting attracts 2,000 attendees every year to participate in a week-long series of field sessions, education workshops, and panel discussions. Nationally known experts and practitioners make the host city a classroom to showcase and learn from local preservation successes and issues.

So, circle those dates now and we’ll see you there.

If you would like to help the local Steering Committee plan the conference, please contact Kristen Griffin, Historic Preservation Officer, at 625-6543.