

**2007-2009
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Report of the Annual Conference 2007

by Elisabeth Walton Potter

The Year 2007 Annual Conference of the Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians was held October 12-14 in Corvallis, Oregon, on the campus of Oregon State University. The conference was the first to be convened by the Chapter in the historic Willamette River trading community and university seat. It was attended by 68 members and guests, including a contingent of students from the University of Oregon graduate program in Historic Preservation. The Chapter welcomed conferees from British Columbia, Washington, Idaho, and California as well as Oregon.

The organizing theme of the conference was "Stewardship and Sustainability: Shaping Cultural Landscapes in the Twenty-first Century." Excursions to outlying areas offered opportunities for viewing paradigms of sustainability in cultural resource management.

Local Chairman BA Beierle and Associate Coordinator Elisabeth Potter were supported in their arrangements by Treasurer Shirley Courtois, Vice-president Edward Teague, Membership Coordinator Jeannette Reynolds, Newsletter Editor Helen Edwards, Secretary Bernadette Niederer, and Transportation Coordinator David Pinyerd. As many as nine cooperating host organizations and agencies gave access to venues and extended courtesies contributing to the enjoyment and enlightenment of conferees.

Pre-conference Excursion

A pre-conference excursion into rural Benton County on Friday afternoon featured an arm's-length tour of the Hull-Oakes Lumber Company mill located in the foothills of the Coast Range southwest of Corvallis. The last of the steam-powered, long-and-large lumber manufactories operating commercially in the Pacific Northwest, the Hull-Oakes mill supplies custom long lengths for



Conferees signed in for a tour of the steam-powered Hull-Oakes Lumber Company mill on the opening day of the conference. Lovett Scholar Melissa Stoller awaited her turn behind Marianne Hurley.

From the President...

Tacoma is the site for our 2008 chapter meeting, and planning is solidly underway with Caroline T. Swope as conference chair. Caroline, author of *Classic Houses of Seattle: High Style to Vernacular, 1870–1950* (Timber Press, 2005), is well known in the region as an instructor, architectural historian, and preservationist. Her background will undoubtedly help shape an enriching and memorable conference.

For now, memories of our wonderful visit to Corvallis last October still linger. At what other conference could one, over the course of a weekend, hear scholarly papers, tour historic homes, sawmills and historic college buildings, and climb into the attics of courthouses and museums. We can't thank enough our conference co-chairs Elisabeth Walton Potter and BA Beierle for planning a meeting that was perfect from overall concept down to the last detail.

At the Corvallis meeting, two chapter members who have departed key posts in our organization were recognized for their special achievements. For those who missed the meeting, it's worth repeating the recognition they deserve. After a record-breaking six years of service as chapter president, Martin Segger stepped down with many accomplishments to his credit. During Martin's tenure, the chapter celebrated its 50th anniversary in Eugene, strengthened the organization's web presence, enriched student involvement, promoted an updated membership pamphlet, and facilitated the development of a first-rate newsletter.

We are also much appreciative of the work of Helen Edwards, who retired last year as the chapter's newsletter editor and chapter webmaster, dual responsibilities she held since 2002. Helen's oversight of the chapter's primary communication vehicles brought a professional look and quality that attracted new participants to our organization and unified the membership of a far-flung chapter. Our new editor, David Pinyerd, has a solid legacy to build upon. Thank you, David, for volunteering!

As the temporary webmaster, I hope to hear from you about your expectations for our website. And, as chapter president, I welcome any comments about our chapter and how it serves you. Plan now for Tacoma!

Ed Teague

Applications Accepted for Wendell Lovett Award

Each year the chapter recognizes a young scholar – graduate or undergraduate student or early career professional – who wishes to present a scholarly paper at the annual conference. Young scholars who require financial assistance to attend the meeting may apply for a small grant from the Wendell Lovett Fund. When submitting an abstract to the paper session coordinator (see “Call for Papers” on the next page), please include a statement of intent and need, and indicate you are requesting assistance from the Wendell Lovett Fund. The award covers all events of the annual conference – registration, meals, tours – which the recipient is required to attend. Some travel and lodging expenses may be reimbursed.

CALL FOR PAPERS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS MARION DEAN ROSS/PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER

TACOMA, WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 2-4, 2008

Abstracts or proposals for formal papers or work-in-progress reports are solicited for the 2008 annual meeting of the Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians. This year's meeting will be held in Tacoma, Washington. Tacoma, once the Pacific Northwest's largest city, showcases a rejuvenated downtown with one of the region's premier collections of late-nineteenth-century architecture set against Commencement Bay, the Puget Sound, and the majestic backdrop of Mt. Rainer.

Submissions may address any aspect of the built environment from any time period or place. This includes everything from house museums to high-rises; indigenous landscapes to industrial development; stadiums to sprawl; preservation to the public sphere. Proposals are encouraged that address the conference theme: "Re-Use, Recycling, and Rebirth: Architecture and Preservation in the Pacific Northwest." However, all abstracts adhering to the submission guidelines listed below will be given a fair assessment.

Graduate students and advanced undergraduates in fields related to the built environment are particularly welcome to present at the conference, as the chapter wishes to highlight new scholarship and approaches from emerging scholars. Membership in the Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians is not required for abstract submission, although everyone chosen for presentation will be asked to contribute chapter dues for the current year. Students in need of financial assistance to attend the conference may apply for a stipend from the Wendell Lovett Fund. Please attach a statement of need, not to exceed 150 words, on a separate piece of paper when submitting the abstract.

Submission Guidelines: The abstract should be no more than 500 words, and must fit onto a single-sided page. On a separate single page, include the author's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address with a brief, one-paragraph biography or one-page curriculum vitae. Abstracts are **due on or before April 30, 2008**, and authors of papers chosen for presentation will be notified by June 1, 2008. Registration fees apply.

Please indicate in your abstract whether you intend to deliver a formal twenty-minute paper or a ten-minute work-in-progress report. Either way, proposals should reveal scholarship that promises an original contribution to the history of the built environment. Ultimately, the papers or work-in-progress reports delivered at the conference must be analytical or critical in nature, rather than descriptive.

Completed manuscripts of accepted papers must be submitted in full to conference organizers by August 1, 2008. Authors shall retain copyright, but shall agree that the paper will be deposited for scholarly use in the chapter archive in the Division of Special Collections and Archives at the University of Oregon's Knight Library.

Electronic submission of proposals is preferred. Please email submissions as Microsoft Word attachments on or before April 30, 2008, to Caroline Swope at cswope@sscd.ctc.edu and J. Philip Gruen at jpgruen@arch.wsu.edu.

If you are unable to send your submission as an electronic attachment, please send it via regular mail to **both**:

Caroline Swope c/o
Historic Tacoma
PO Box 7664
Tacoma WA 98417

J. Philip Gruen
School of Architecture and Construction Management
Washington State University
PO Box 642220
Pullman WA 99164-2220

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varied purposes, including restoration of historic vessels and buildings. The tour was launched by industrial historian George Wisner and led by company employees. Conferees were also greeted at the William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge, where they inspected a settlement-era farmhouse and a historic hunting lodge and associated barn that are maintained as integral features of the refuge headquarters.

Opening Session

The conference opened formally on Friday evening in Oregon State University's Memorial Union with a reception and two special presentations. University Archivist Lawrence Landis discussed the career of Portland architect John V. Bennes, who was campus architect from 1907 to 1941. William G. Robbins, the University's Emeritus Distinguished Professor of History, discussed market-related threats to natural resources and public lands and the effects of shifting land-use policies in the Pacific Northwest.

General Session

Six papers were presented by member scholars during the Saturday morning session. Leonard Eaton, Emeritus Professor of Architecture, University of Michigan, considered architectural application of the "ideogram" concept advanced by Harvard University professor Kenneth J. Conant. Martin Segger, Adjunct Professor of the Fine Arts Faculty, University of Victoria, illustrated the career of 19th Century English architect Richard Roskell Bayne in India under the Raj. Anne Lawrason Marshall, Associate Professor, University of Idaho Department of Architecture and Interior Design, examined content of a design project resulting in Stastny/Brun Architects's Huhugam Heritage Center in the Gila River Indian community of Arizona.

David Pinyerd, principal of Historic Preservation Northwest Consulting, described the design and function of station buildings of the U. S. Life-Saving Service on the Oregon coast. Architectural conservator Alfred Staehli, FAIA, considered the role of the Federal Housing Authority in postwar home building and the influence of G.I. dream houses on popular builders' homes following the Second World War.

The final paper was presented by Melissa Stoller, candidate for a Master's degree in Historic Preservation at the University of Oregon. Ms. Stoller considered how interior spaces were conceived, built, and reshaped in the settlement-era house of Thomas and Walter Monteith in Albany, Oregon. Her thesis project is expected to become the basis for a new interpretive plan for the popular house museum. As the conference Lovett Scholar, Ms. Stoller was granted an award from the Chapter fund supporting the participation of younger scholars that was established by Wendell Lovett and Grant Hildebrand in 1996.



Hull-Oakes log buyer Don Wagner, one of the company employees who guided the tour, explained saw maintenance protocol.



The John and Cynthia Fiechter House (1855-1857) was among historic buildings on the William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge visited by conferees.

New Books by Chapter Authors

A book table adjoining the lecture room displayed new publications by chapter members. A central feature of the display was *A Greek Temple in French Prairie: The William Case House, French Prairie, Oregon 1858-59*, newly completed by Grant Hildebrand and Miriam Sutermeister and published under Chapter copyright as the latest educational project.

Other exhibitors included Leonard Eaton (*Hardy Cross American Engineer*, University of Illinois Press, 2006), Lawrence Kreisman and Glenn Mason (*The Arts and Crafts Movement in the Pacific Northwest*, Timber Press, 2007), and David Pinyerd (*Lighthouses and Life-Saving on the Oregon Coast*, Arcadia Publishing, 2007).

General Meeting

Martin Segger presided at the annual meeting of the Chapter following luncheon in the Memorial Union. Among other business, Miriam Sutermeister, as chair, presented for the nominating committee a slate of officers that was adopted unanimously. The following were elected to serve for the ensuing two years: Edward Teague, president; Phillip Mead, vice-president; Bernadette Niederer, secretary; and Shirley Courtois, treasurer. Jeannette Reynolds was called to serve as mailing list and newsletter coordinator. [David Pinyerd subsequently assumed responsibility for coordinating the newsletter.] The following were named regional delegates to the board of directors: Martin Segger, past president, Harold Kalman, British Columbia; Caroline Swope, western Washington; J. Philip Gruen, eastern Washington. The states of Oregon and Idaho will be represented on the board by officers Teague, Mead, and Niederer.

Other formalities included the presentation of framed certificates of appreciation to outgoing president Martin Segger and newsletter editor Helen Edwards. Mr. Segger, three-term Chapter president 2002-2007, was recognized for fostering teamwork that resulted in a six-year period of notable stability and productivity. Helen Edwards, who also served three consecutive terms, was applauded for keeping the organization connected through an informative semi-annual illustrated newsletter and for mastering an inviting interactive Chapter web site. The certificates were accompanied by gifts of Kreisman and Mason's book, *The Arts and Crafts Movement in the Pacific Northwest*.

Saturday Afternoon Tours

Taking charge of the first leg of the Saturday afternoon touring schedule was University Archivist Lawrence Landis, who led conferees on a walk through the central campus to view core-area buildings, a cohesive group of which was designed in the tradition of Beaux Arts Classicism by campus architect John V. Bennes beginning in 1907. Among recent developments noted was the Kelley Engineering Center (Yost Grube Hall Architecture, 2006), hailed as the first new academic engineering building to be awarded gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system.

From Benton Hall, the University's "Old Main" built in 1888, conferees were transported to the Corvallis Art Center (ArtCentric), the historic Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan (1889), for refreshments and orientation for a walking tour of the county seat's historic commercial district. Mary Gallagher, Curator of History and Research for the Benton County Historical Society and Museum, guided the tour which concluded at the Benton County Courthouse of 1887-1889. Conferees were treated to a top-to-bottom inspection of Oregon's oldest courthouse in continuous use by local government courtesy of the Supervisor of Elections.



Oregon State University Archivist Larry Landis led the campus walking tour which included the core group of Beaux Arts Classical buildings designed by John V. Bennes.

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Saturday Awards Banquet and Keynote Address

The Memorial Union was the venue for the Chapter Awards Banquet, during which time Kenneth Guzowski, Shirley Courtois, and Jeannette Reynolds were presented with Marion Dean Ross Distinguished Service Awards. Grant Hildebrand produced personalized illustrated keepsakes for the three recipients. As treasurer from 1996 to 2001, Mr. Guzowski was the Chapter's first financial officer to have duties separate from those of secretary. He built the treasury to an effective level, promoted new memberships through creative marketing, and secured the first independent audit by way of good practice. Ms. Courtois brought rigor to the Chapter's business management both as vice-president (2000-2001) and as treasurer since 2002. Under her care Chapter assets have grown to an all-time high. Ms Reynolds, a regional delegate in 2000 and membership coordinator from 2001 onward, produced the indispensable Chapter officers' procedural handbook and, together with Ms. Courtois, conducted a member survey that assisted subsequent conference planning. For six consecutive years she maintained and regularly updated the Chapter mailing list and produced posters, rosters and registration materials for the annual conferences.

Speaker of honor at the banquet was Robert Melnick, FASLA, Emeritus Dean, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts, and present Interim Director of the University of Oregon Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art. Having lately served as Visiting Senior Program Officer for The Getty Foundation in Los Angeles, Professor Melnick was able to exercise one of his areas of special interest by overseeing a three-year grant program for preserving the cultural landscapes of college campuses throughout the country. His remarks illuminating the theme of the conference were delivered under the title "Caring for American Campuses: Stewardship Lessons from the Getty."



Outgoing President Martin Segger accepted the Chapter's accolades for himself and on behalf of Newsletter Editor and Webmaster Helen Edwards during the general business meeting.



On behalf of long-serving Membership Coordinator Jeannette Reynolds, Wendell Lovett, FAIA, right, accepted the Distinguished Service Award presented by Grant Hildebrand during the awards banquet.



Kenneth Guzowski and Shirley Courtois also received Marion Dean Ross Distinguished Service Awards for more than a decade of service, between them, as treasurers of the Chapter.

Sunday Caravan Tour

The focus of Sunday's exit tour was the historic archaeological site of Fort Hoskins, a U.S. Army boundary post on the Coast Indian Reservation established in 1856. Following a well-attended breakfast executive board meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn, the car caravan departed for Philomath, where conferees viewed historic photographs and artifacts

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recovered from Fort Hoskins that were on display in the Philomath Academy building of 1867 that serves as the Benton County Historical Museum.

David Brauner of the Oregon State University Department of Anthropology undertook the archaeological investigations and spearheaded efforts to bring the landscape into public ownership. At the place now maintained by the Benton County Parks Department as Fort Hoskins Historic Park, Dr. Brauner guided conferees across the contours of the site, explaining interpretive and development plans that include the full span of land use, from Native American and settler contact times to post-military phases. The conference concluded with a box lunch in the park's spacious picnic shelter and overlook.

Tentative Schedule for the Tacoma Meeting 2008

The theme of the 2008 Tacoma Meeting will be "Re-Use, Re-cycling, and Rebirth: Architecture and Preservation in the Pacific Northwest."

Dates will change from the usual Friday-Sunday format to Thursday-Saturday schedule, October 2-4.

Thursday: Opening reception at UWT (University of Washington Tacoma) with guest speaker Michael Sullivan of Artifacts Consulting

Friday: AM paper session held at the Knights of Pythias fraternal lodge.

Friday: PM tour, possibly two. One of Stadium High School and one of a modernist house, exact venue TBA.

There will be self-guided walking/driving tours of Tacoma's Auto Row, the MLK Hilltop neighborhood, and possibly the North Slope Historic district as well.

Evening event location TBA, with a speaker on the UWT.

Saturday: Half day tour to Olympia, to view the preservation work on the governmental campus. Michael Houser, from the Washington State Historic Preservation Office, would lead the tour.

The Book of Wallace: The Life, Ideas and Gardens of an Oregon Living Treasure by Randy Gragg

Portland Spaces, a new design magazine for Portland, Oregon, in its second issue (on the newsstands March 15) profiles the great Oregon historian and landscape architect, Wallace K. Huntington, designer of hundreds of gardens and restorer of the Case House in Aurora, Oregon.



Bird's eye drawing of the Case House. Copyright held by the Marion Dean Ross Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians and Grant Hildebrand.

Book News from Chapter Members

*A Greek Temple in French Prairie:
The William Case House, French Prairie, Oregon 1858-59*
by Miriam Sutermeister and Grant Hildebrand

Chapter members Grant Hildebrand and Miriam Sutermeister presented at the Corvallis meeting their self-published book on the Case House in French Prairie, Oregon. At the Chapter's 2005 meeting in Bellingham, WA, Prof. Hildebrand had shown images of the historic property, a recording project assisted by a grant from the Chapter. Continuing research resulted in the new book, which was supported by funds from the Chapter and a most generous anonymous private donor. Copyright is vested in the Chapter.

The book tells the story of the Cases' emigration from Indiana and their early life in French Prairie; the design of the house, including an analysis of the sources for its peripteral porch; a conjectural account of its construction; its history, and that of the family, after 1860; its restoration by Mirza Dickel and Wallace Kay Huntington, with a brief discussion of Wallace's garden; and an appreciation of the significance and value of the house.

The book comprises 109 pages, with 45 illustrations in color and 14 in black and white, 4 appendices, and a bibliography. An eight-page addendum provides a detailed time line of events central and peripheral to the house and the Case family. Copies have been distributed to major regional universities, libraries, and historical societies. A few copies remain available for personal purchase at \$20 each, for further information contact Ed Teague at eheteague@uoregon.edu or 205C Lawrence Hall, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97401.

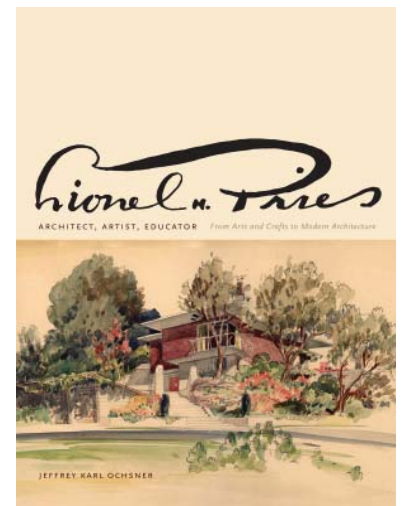


*Lionel H. Pries, Architect, Artist, Educator:
From Arts and Crafts to Modern Architecture*
by Jeffrey Karl Ochsner
(excerpts from UW Press)

On the evening of May 16, 1958, architecture alumni of the University of Washington converged on Seattle from all over the country. The event was a banquet to celebrate the founding of their alma mater's new College of Architecture and Urban Planning. One by one, the dean introduced the college's faculty members. At the name of Lionel "Spike" Pries, one alumnus recalled, "there was a special charge in the air.... Everyone rose and cheered and clapped; it appeared to go on forever." But within six months, Lionel Pries was abruptly and mysteriously gone from the university. After thirty years of service, he lost his job, his major source of income, and, just four years short of retirement, his pension. The official explanation was illness; friends "sensed a large injustice," in what they believed was a dismissal based on Pries's sexual orientation.

With *Lionel H. Pries, Architect, Artist, Educator: From Arts and Crafts to Modern Architecture*, Jeffrey Karl Ochsner redresses that injustice. Lionel "Spike" Pries (1897-1968) was one of the most influential teachers of architecture and design at the University of Washington. Minoru Yamasaki, Perry Johanson, A.Q. Jones, Paul Kirk, Roland Terry, Fred Bassetti, Alan Liddle, Wendell Lovett, Victor Steinbrueck, and many other prominent twentieth-century architects were inspired by Pries, whose highly artistic style of design helped shape the development of Modernism in Northwest architecture.

Ochsner offers an erudite celebration of Pries's professional legacy, tracing his evolution as a designer, architect, teacher, and artist. He shows how Pries absorbed and synthesized disparate influences and movements in design—the



California Arts and Crafts and Mission Revival, the Ecole des Beaux-Arts methodology, Art Nouveau and Art Deco, Mexican and Japanese motifs, the International Style and other permutations of the Modern Movement.

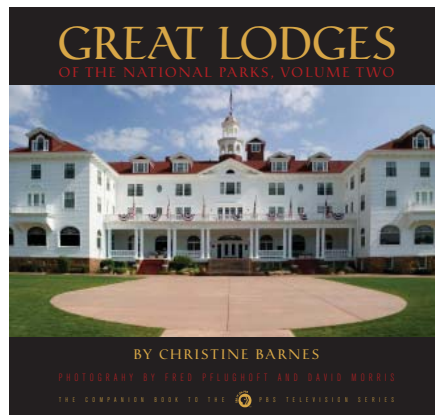
This comprehensive, lavishly illustrated work will appeal not only to architects and architectural historians, but also to those interested in American studies, the decorative arts, and Northwest history and culture. Its depth of research broadens our understanding of twentieth-century Modernism and of the history of architectural education.

Chapter members who attended the 1999 conference in Seattle will recall that Prof. Ochsner was the featured after-dinner speaker who enlightened us with his presentation on the career of Lionel Pries.

384 pages, 310 illustrations, 160 in color, notes, index, 9 x 12 in.

*Great Lodges of the National Parks,
Volume Two*
by Christine Barnes

Pack your bags! The latest installment of PBS's popular GREAT LODGES series takes you on a fascinating tour of some of America's most gorgeous national lands and their diverse, grand, charming, and historic lodges. This stunning two-part, two-hour documentary produced by Oregon Public Broadcasting airs in high-definition on PBS stations nationwide this summer (check your local listings). The companion book, *Great Lodges Of The National Parks, Volume Two*, written by Christine Barnes, will be available in stores in July 2008.



GREAT LODGES OF THE NATIONAL PARKS sets you on the edge of a volcano in Hawaii, surrounds you with comfort in the Alaskan wilderness, and fills your view with the rugged mountain peaks and pristine lakes in the Colorado Rockies and the Grand Tetons. For Northwest enthusiasts, Lake Quinault Lodge and Lake Crescent Lodge on the Olympic Peninsula, Wallowa Lake Lodge on the edge of Oregon's Eagle Cap Wilderness and two Alaskan national park lodges are featured.

192 pages, 250 color and historic photographs along with architectural drawings. Published by Graphic Arts Center Publishing, Portland, OR.

Thank You!

We would like to extend our warmest thanks to the following individuals who made donations to the chapter during 2007:

Anonymous
Jim Balakshin
BA Beierle
Susan Boyle
Shirley Courtois,
in memory of Philip Dole
Jerry and Gunilla Finrow,
in memory of Philip Dole
Grant Hildebrand and
Miriam Sutermeister
Elisabeth Walton Potter
David Rash
Al Staehli

Members are reminded that the chapter is an IRS approved 501(c)(3) organization, and gifts to the chapter are fully tax deductible as permitted by law.

Looking For a Good Home

MDR SAH member, Diana Painter is writing a book on mid-century residential architecture in the Pacific Northwest, to be published by Timber Press. She is looking for good examples of mid-century homes in the smaller towns, particularly in eastern Oregon and Washington and Idaho. She has many examples from the larger metropolitan areas, but would like to have more examples from these areas. Please send her an email if you know of particularly good examples that you think merit mention: d.painter15@comcast.net.



c/o Jeannette Reynolds
6712 Fifth NW
Seattle WA 98117

Marion Dean Ross
Pacific Northwest Chapter

Society of
Architectural
Historians

Looking Ahead . . .

Looking forward to seeing you at the annual conference in Tacoma, Washington on October 2-4, 2008.

Upcoming Event . . .

National SAH conference
Cincinnati OH
April 23-27, 2008

Visit www.sah.org for further details.

Now Here . . .

Check out our updated website at www.sahmdr.org.