



*Jane Lynch (right) received the Golden Hammer Award for home improvement from Debby Grahl, trustee.*

## 2010 Annual Meeting Highlights

Excerpts from the President's Report by George Wymer

Volunteerism is what helps the Oregon District create a sense of community, makes neighborhood life secure and comfortable, and establishes an atmosphere in which to live, work and recreate.

The core of volunteers is not large. Thank goodness that a few "newer" residents have stepped forward. But we need more. Many of the old guard are ... getting older.

Often this year, I challenged your trustees to recruit new volunteers – not merely to bring more manpower to our tasks, but to bring fresh thinking and additional perspectives.

Our organization exists to reaffirm the 19<sup>th</sup> Century qualities of self-reliance and independent action, coupled with interdependent cooperation for civic attainment that the pioneer families displayed while establishing and perpetuating the Oregon neighborhood.

Also, this year, I challenged your trustees to talk to more neighbors, to better understand their thoughts, concerns and ideas. Our organization also exists to represent and advocate for the interests of the District, for the enhancement and preservation of the area and to promote interest in the restoration, rehabilitation and appreciation of the historic aesthetic and human advantages of the area.

We, as OHDS members, residents and workers, are charged to act as the catalyst for rekindling civic pride, strengthening neighborhood ties and improving the city and its services. We can do this by drawing public attention to the beauty and utility of the area's rich

architectural heritage. When possible, we also try to cooperate with and further the aims and goals of individuals and organizations with similar objectives.

The charges and challenges mentioned above, which I so deftly lifted from the OHDS Constitution, remain. Our neighborhood may age, but it is refreshed with each new neighbor, each new business, and each new idea.

Again, I call for volunteers to embrace the spirit of the pioneers of Burns-Jackson, who created the Oregon Historic District with muscle, sweat, hope and determination. Your value proposition is that your thoughts, ideas and commitments will strengthen your stake in the community you have chosen.

As the Oregon Historic District community, we share some common characteristics or interests, and perceive ourselves as distinct from the larger society in which we exist. As such, I paraphrase a more famous President: "Despite all our divisions and disagreements, our hesitations and our fears, (the Oregon Historic District) prevails because we choose to move forward as one community and one people." We are always "tested, and again we must answer history's call."

### OFFICERS FOR 2010-2011

President: George Wymer  
Vice President: Debby Grahl  
Treasurer: Greg Smith  
Secretary: Dina Peterson

Elected to new terms as trustees at the Annual Meeting on April 24 were Dina Peterson, Greg Smith and Norm Wentland. Congratulations! Thanks to Kathy Coley who left the board after serving a three-year term.

## Call for Entries: Oregon Art Contest for Youth

by Rob Jones, Membership Chair

The OHDS Membership Committee is sponsoring an art contest for children 14 years of age and younger. The theme for the contest is: *What I Like About the Oregon District*.

The winning artwork will appear on the cover of the 2010-2011 OHDS Membership Directory. In addition, all entries will be prominently displayed at *Gallery 510 Fine Art* on Fifth Street in the Oregon District for the public to enjoy during the *First Friday* activities on July 2.

- Any media may be used including a mixture of materials (no text please).
- Entries should be 10" wide by 16" high with a vertical orientation.
- All artwork should be submitted to

*Gallery 510 Fine Art* at 510 E. Fifth Street, Dayton.

- Artwork may be dropped off during normal business hours: Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday noon-5 p.m., Friday 3-7 p.m.
- All entries must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 17.
- Please include the following information with entries: artist's name, address, phone, date of birth, school attended, type of medium used and artwork title.
- Only one entry per child please.

First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded. Winners will be determined by a panel of three judges and announced on June 28. Questions may be directed to Loretta Puncer at *Gallery 510 Fine Art*, 937-672-6717, lpuncer@woh.rr.com.



### Homes for Sale in the District

Source: MLS

Single-family homes or single units

38 Green Street	\$220,000
107 Green Street	229,900
111 Green Street	239,900
46 Hess Street	320,000
318 East Sixth Street	149,900
416 East Sixth Street	144,500
136 Jones Street	215,000
141 Jones Street	146,500
132 Jackson Street	244,900

Multi-family properties

107 Van Buren Street	\$199,900
601 East Fifth Street	1 million


**SAVE THE DATES**
  
**DECEMBER 5-8**  
**ANNUAL HOLIDAY CANDLELIGHT TOUR**

## Special Events

### Park Clean-Up

Saturday, May 22, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Lots of volunteers are needed for any or all of the day to clean up and plant flowers in our neighborhood parks. The work begins in Newcom Park and moves on to park entryways during the day. Garden workers will receive a complimentary lunch of pizza and beverages. Please bring your own garden tools, if you have them.



### Summer Picnics in the Park

Sundays at 6:00 p.m.

May 30, June 13, July 4, August 1 and 22, September 5

Dust off those lawn chairs and start planning what side dish or dessert you will bring. The Oregon District's annual summer picnics are about to begin – with more fun for all ages. Jeanine and Burgess Gow will be organizing the picnics this summer, and they are looking for hosts for all dates except July 4. Hosts are responsible for arranging for the main dish and helping with set-up and clean-up. Expenses are reimbursed from the contributions of attendees (\$3/person). Please contact them at [gow867@gmail.com](mailto:gow867@gmail.com) or 414-526-0592 if you can help.

### Oregon District Garage Sale

Saturday, June 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

It's time to clean out those nooks and crannies and share your hidden treasures with the world – for fun and profit. The cost to hold a sale in your garage or in Newcom Park is just \$5. If you'd like to participate, please use the enclosed form to register by May 31 with Leslie Gonya, who is once again organizing the sale.

### Time to Mow

A friendly reminder from the Housing Committee

*The rain is here.  
Tree lawns do grow.  
Alley weeds appear.  
It's time to mow!*

Get that mower tuned up because the tree lawns have started growing and the weeds at the alley edges are getting high. Yes, it is the homeowner's or renter's responsibility to keep the tree lawn mowed and weed free. Also, all areas at the back of your property need to be kept cut or trimmed. This includes around garages and up to the edge of the alley.

### Share Your Vision for Newcom Park

The Newcom Park Long-Range Planning Committee wants to hear from residents about their preferences for updating the park. Please email any or all of the committee members: Tom Archdeacon, Marion Kendig, Mike Martin (chair), Kris Rankin and Monica Snow.

### Preschool Registration Open

South Park Preschool, located at the corner of Brown Street and Stonemill Road, is accepting registrations for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. The program accepts children from ages two to five years. Call Carol Lehman at 224-1731 for more information.

### Kudos!

Writer Debby Grahl has been recognized with first-place awards from Romance Writer magazine and the Connecticut Chapter of Romance Writers of America.

