

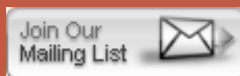


SPRINGFIELD PRESERVATION TRUST NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2014

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*image above is of
The Chapel at
Oak Grove Cemetery*

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Casino Update

The Springfield Historical Commission has met several times with MGM over the past 20 months in an attempt to lessen the impact of the casino complex on historic assets. The MGM campus is bounded by State Street, Union Street, Main Street, and East Columbus Avenue, except for Red Rose Pizza, Berkshire Bank, and 33 and 55 State Street. There are thirteen structures of varying degrees of historic concern ranging from buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places to buildings which might be eligible for listing.

[read more](#)

Voices from the Grave returns to the SPT Event Schedule on Sunday, October 19

The Preservation Trust is gearing up for the 2nd Annual "Voices from the Grave". This year's event returns us to Oak Grove Cemetery on Sunday, October 19 where costumed actors will portray the lives (and deaths) of six prominent Springfield citizens that are now interred at Oak Grove Cemetery.



Last year's event featured well known Springfield citizens including Primus Mason, Frank Wesson, and John Mcknight. Over 150 people enjoyed the crisp autumn air and camaraderie of friends as they made their way from gravesite to gravesite.

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SPT Launches 'City of Homes' Calendar

The Springfield Preservation Trust (SPT) launched a 'City of Homes' 2015 Calendar at the Mattoon Street Arts Festival on September 6 and 7, 2014. The organization, known for its work in the preservation of the architectural heritage of Springfield, determined that developing a calendar featuring the historical homes of Springfield would be a great way to promote local preservation, education, and advocacy efforts, while at the same time showcasing the magnificent character the city has to offer.



[read more](#)

Summer Garden Fundraiser

Over 90 members and friends attended the 2014 Garden Party on Sunday, August 24. [Click here for pictures from the event.](#)



The Preservation Trust thanks Ed Zuckerman for opening his spectacular 1888 Queen Anne style home at 28 Ingersoll Grove. Guests enjoyed the wonderful weather, beautiful gardens, tours of the house, and delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared and served by Al Dente Catering.



Special thanks go to Robert Louder who organized the event and to Denise Moccia who organized the raffle.

The Trust would also like to thank the following people and organizations who donated to the raffle:

- Betti Boggis, Big Y Foods, Inc.
- Lynn Bolton, Friendly's, Inc.
- Daniel Boyle, Springfield Symphony Orchestra
- William Devlin, Architect
- Jennifer McGrath, Six Flags New England
- Russ Stratton, Suburban Integrated Facilities Resources
- Gayle White, Eagle Home Buyers

Status of the Female Seminary

SPT's long-term project at 77 Maple St. has just come through another major exterior-restoration project. In this latest phase, 10 more windows were restored and major amounts of exterior trim were rebuilt. This is about the 6th job, in a series combining structural integrity and exterior enclosure, ranked by degree of urgency.

[read more](#)

ROBERT SMITH
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**VICTORIAN
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43 Atwater Road and its First Residents' Legacy

Does a house recognize the DNA of its past occupants? Do the walls remember past lives? Perhaps! On September 6, 2014, a young man, Jim Derrickson, Jr., the great grandson of the original owners of our 100 year home visited

for lunch. As I opened the door he greeted me with an arrangement of flowers and a gift basket of cheese and sausage from Crowley Cheese, a Vermont company. What I didn't know is that his great grandmother, Adelaide Crowley Welcker, was a relative of the Crowley Cheese family. In he stepped and said, "It's just the way I imagined the home." He later stated, "In this house I feel a sense of tranquility as if it welcomes me." As well it should. Some Welckers, the original owners along with their son and daughter and her children, Jim and Billy Derrickson lived in the house for 36 years. Together Jim, my husband Joe and I were able to answer questions about the history of this house's first family and to laugh at Jim's remembrance through history tales about the dark woodwork and the tulip stained glass windows.

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Monthly meetings of the Springfield Preservation Trust are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at the Mason Wright Retirement Center, 74 Walnut Street. SPT members are welcome to attend.

Springfield Preservation Trust
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