

The

COTTAGE GROVE ARMORY

SIGNAL

A quarterly newsletter showcasing the restoration efforts and potential of a local historic landmark

MAYOR'S BALL SWINGS TO
FUND EXTERIOR REMODEL
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WINTER, 2017

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Meet the 'Signal' Team

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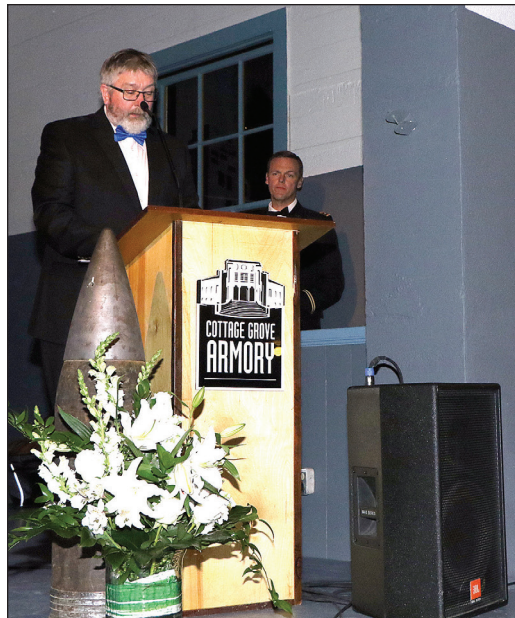
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, ARMORY PROJECT

Richard Meyers

CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE

In remarks at the Mayor's Ball, Mayor Jeff Gowing talks about his family's many connections to the Armory.

photo by Greg Lee



FAMILY TRADITION

Cottage Grove Mayor details family's long history of involvement with the Armory

BY JON STINNETT

Elected to his position last fall, Cottage Grove Mayor Jeff Gowing presided over his first Mayor's Ball at the Armory in October. There, Gowing and wife Celia welcomed guests and later shared a dance

after the evening's program concluded. Still, the event represents just one chapter in a long history between the Gowing family and this historic building. During his remarks at the Mayor's Ball, the Mayor detailed that history.

Please see **MAYOR**, page 2

STAIR WORK RESOLVES LEAD CONCERNS

Recent tests show Armory is all clear

The City had been notified of the results for some time, but Christina Lund, Development Director for the Armory restoration effort, chose the occasion of the Cottage Grove Mayor's Ball to make an excited announcement.

Lund told the crowd that lead tests conducted at five locations in the Armory on Sept. 27 had essentially declared the Armory to be free of the heavy metal. The tests were conducted by Environmental Testing and Training Northwest and analyzed at SanAir Technologies Laboratory in Powhatan, Virginia.

Widespread media coverage linking the Cottage Grove Armory to other armories

Please see **TESTS**, page 6

Possibilities

Recent, future events highlight
Armory's potential

MAYOR'S BALL BENEFITS EXTERIOR RESTORATION



Overhead drapery and elegant table settings showcased the Armory's ability to host a gala event during the second annual Cottage Grove Mayor's Ball, held on Saturday, Oct. 14.

photo by Greg Lee

The Cottage Grove Armory donned its best attire, as did the 140 or so attendees who gathered at the historic building for the second annual Cottage Grove Mayor's Ball, held Saturday, Oct. 14.

Greeting guests atop the Armory's iconic south staircase were Mayor Jeff Gowing and wife Celia. Once inside, attendees witnessed an Armory transformed, with elegant table settings, a new backdrop onstage and yards of overhead drapery helping to create a magical effect. The evening featured a live auction that offered items such as a week's stay in an apartment in

MAYOR *from page 1*

Puerta Vallarta, Mexico, a helicopter ride above the McKenzie River and a cruise aboard the Spirit of Portland. Recalling the long history between Cottage Grove, the Armory and the National Guard, Lt. Col. Philip DeMontigny, who boasts a 20-year military career and currently serves as commander of 2-162, offered keynote remarks. DeMontigny spoke of the qualities of perseverance and discipline and noted how these influenced his own life. He was introduced by Lt. Col. Erik Benson of Cottage Grove. The Mayor's Ball also included a Desert Dash, where tables bid for the

right to choose first among a variety of delicious desserts, a silent and live auction and music from the Emerald City Jazz Kings. The national anthem was sung by Linda Duffy. A video prepared by Rick Dancer Productions detailing progress in the Armory's restoration also served as a highlight of the evening.

After the Mayor's Ball, Christina Lund, coordinator of the fundraising effort, stated that the event raised nearly \$47,000, funds that will be directed specifically to remodel the Armory's iconic exterior.

"My mom was born and raised here," Gowing later recounted. (in Cottage Grove.) "She attended ballet, took violin lessons, learned trumpet and went roller skating at the Armory. There were lots of community activities held there."

Gowing's father, Marvin, served in the National Guard from 1957-63, and he recalls a picture of his father dated June of 1958 that must have been taken just after his sister, June was born and just before his father left for training. Like many other local children, June attended

kindergarten downstairs at the Armory.

Further, Gowing's uncle Melvin, a captain, served as commander at the Armory in the late 1950s.

"If you didn't go into the regular Army at the time, you did the Guard," Gowing, himself a veteran, explained. Still, he also attend a variety of community functions there over the years, including dances organized by radio station KNND that featured the top 100 hits of the day. With their long associations with the Armory in mind, Gowing invited his parents to the event, and he

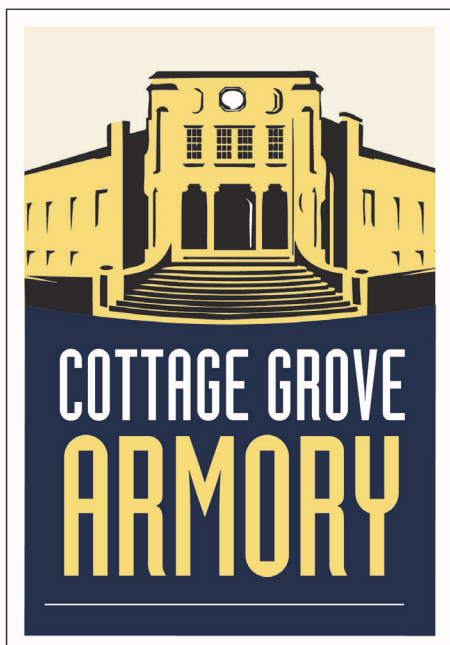
said his father still attends Veterans Day and other ceremonies held at the Armory.

And as an attendee of many Cottage Grove area functions these days, Gowing said he understands the role a revitalized Armory can play in the community's future.

"The single most important thing is that we have a lot of organizations fundraising, and we're often packed in the Catholic church," he said. "If you can double that capacity, you could double the money that's raised, too. It's also a nice place to have a

dance. We had guests from Portland here on a weekend getaway. They went to the Spring Fest (held at the Armory in April), came to the Brewstation, had a drink and later went to the Axe & Fiddle. The Armory can be a hub for entertainment."

Gowing added that he had a great time running a booth at the Ice Cream Social, held there in August. "We had everyone from the mom with the little baby to 70 and 80-year old couples," he said. "It was fun for all ages, and it raised money, even though everything only cost a nickel."



COMMUNITY SUPPORT IS AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE ESSENTIAL TO THE ARMORY RESTORATION EFFORT. MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE OFFERED THEIR RESOURCES, TIME AND TALENTS TOWARD THIS GOAL:

4 Star Meat Company

Aaron Blair

Albertson's

Alissa Allen

Amanda Ferguson

Ann M. White, CFP

Aspen Chiropractic

Bart and Kelli Sherman

Bed, Bath & Beyond

Bert Likens

Big Stuff BBQ

Bill and Gail Whiteman

Bochetto Day Spa

Brad Cohen

Brad's Cottage Grove Chevrolet

Brewstation/Coast Fork Feed Co.

Brothers Carpet Cleaning

Builder's Electric

Butcher Baker

Cakes by JoDee

Callan Bjornn

Cameron Reiten

Cetera Advisors Network

CG Interact Club

Chef Michael Landsberg

Ursulla Bischoff

Chris and Rosie Pryor

City of Cottage Grove

Commonwealth Financial Network - Matt Parsons

Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

Cottage Grove Garbage Service

Cottage Grove Professional Grooming

Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Theatre

Creswell Bakery

Dan Hogue

Daniel and Patricia Cathie

Darrell and Mary Lou Williams

Dean and Deluca

Devine Cupcake

Doug and Jeryl Lund

DSW

Ed Smith

Elegant Elephant

Elephant's Trunk

Elu Fusion

Emerald Valley Golf and Resort

Farmers Insurance

Faye & Lucille Stewart Foundation

Ferguson's Appliance

Fisherman's Market

Garden of Ink

Garland Burbach

Gary and Ruth Ackley

Gateway Gardens

George and Teri Devine

George M. Sutton RV

Greg Lee Photography

Hannah Vaughn

Hobby Lobby

Holm Made

HomeArt

IKEA

Irene Bauder

Iris Vineyard

Jack Sprats

James and Barbara Gant

Jim and Mary Gilroy

Julie Johns

Karen Winters

Kathryn Porter

Kelly Frederick

King Estate Winery

Krista and Jason Wamhoff

Larry Tardie

Lauretta Hanks

Laurie Glass-Goerg

Lola Shepherd

Lori Bumgardner

Lt. Col. Erik Benson

Lt. Col. Philip DeMontigny

Lynda Duffy

Marche Restaurant

Marie Koratschenko

Mark and Sharon Kinkade

Market of Choice

Maryhill Winery

Matt and Gina Bjornn

THANK-YOUS continue on page 4

CG Interact Club dedicated to community betterment

A few minutes after noon on a Monday, Marc Bass is looking for volunteers. Here at Cottage Grove High School's Room 107, Bass passes around sign-up sheets for a slew of upcoming community events — there's the Bohemia Fall Festival, Harrison Elementary's Family Fun Night, and the group's biggest event of the year, the Rotary Christmas party, among others. Despite packed schedules that often include sports and other extracurriculars, Bass still finds plenty of support. Each Monday, members of the CG Interact Club take their lunch break here, and as the youth arm of local Rotary efforts, they've dedicated themselves to community service and betterment. Each student

must contribute to at least 100 hours of service to be recognized at graduation, Bass explains, though most give much more of their time. On Saturday, Oct. 14, seven Interact members spent their evening at the Cottage Grove Armory, helping with the silent auction, raffle, coat check and fire watch during the second annual Mayor's Ball. Recently, Christina Lund, director of the Armory's fundraising effort, delivered a letter written by Mayor Jeff Gowing of thanks to the Interact members who contributed. But to hear the students tell it, accolades are certainly not the only reason they choose to help out in their community. "It makes you feel good to help people and see the



Christina Lund presents a donation to club President Gwenyth Fisk and the CG Interact Club.

changes you're making," one student said. "It's instant gratification." "It's also about the people we meet and the connections we make," said another, while one student said that helping out "develops character." "We're not just building up our community, but also the people in it," he said. "It helps create a more

solid foundation for the future." The group added that being visible as helpers in their community reflects well on people their age. "It puts a good image out there," one student said. "People are often shocked to see us out there putting in our own time to help out."

THANK YOU, *from page 3*

Mayor Jeff Gowing	Old Mill Farm Store	Regal Cinemas	Spirit of Portland	The Village Green
McKenzie/Gateway Living	Oval Door Bed and Breakfast	Rhonda Worley	Stacy's Covered Bridge Restaurant	Three Rivers Casino
Metropole Bakery	Pacific Power	Robert and Patricia Tully	State Farm Insurance	Title Nine
Middlefield Golf Course	Pacific Pride	Ron Jon Surf Shop	Stephn and Carolin Pettit	Toys-R-Us
Middlefield Oaks Assisted Living	Pacific Pub Cycle	Ronda Early	Steven Stewart	Trudy Borrevik
Mike and Debbie Gant	Pacific Yurts	Russ Kaleese	Sweet Life	Tuesday Mornings
Moonstone Properties	Pak Tech	Safeway Cottage Grove	T.J. Maxx	Twin Rivers Plumbing
Myles and Joanne Butner	Parties to Go	Safeway Eugene	Target	University of Oregon
Nate and Brian Foster	Pastor Rulon Combs	Sahara Waddell	Territorial Seed Co.	Vicki Edwards
Nicole Schofield	Peggy Prano	Sassy Cupcake	Tesa and Kerry Brainard	Virgil and Lynn Miller
Noisette Pastry Kitchen	Pendleton	Sixth Street Grill	The Bookmine	Wanda Meyers
Oakway Catering	Pier One	Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel	The Hilton Hotel	Whole Foods
	Provisions Market Hall	South Lane County Fire & Rescue	The Hult Center	World Market
	QuoteSoft	South Lane School District	The Luggage Place	Yaquina Bay Fishing Charter
	Rachel Browne Photography		The Shedd Institute	



PACIFIC POWER GRANT TO FUND ARMORY FACELIFT: From left, City Manager Richard Meyers, Mayor Jeff Gowing and Development Officer Christina Lund (far right) accept \$2500 in grant funding for the Armory exterior from Pacific Power's Celeste Krueger.

Model trains on display at Cascade Club show

Model train lovers young and old packed the Armory for three days to see the Cascade Model Railroad Club's display of several scale-model trains on Oct. 26-28. Club President Lee Temple estimated a crowd of 800-1000 came to see the 14 trains the group had on display. The Club, Temple explained, has been in operation for 45 years, and it has held shows in Drain, Eugene and Springfield in addition to Cottage Grove. It first held a display in the Armory last year as part of the 90th anniversary of the filming of Buster Keaton's "The General" — a film with a strong tie to railroading. The Club will now hold an annual show at the Armory due to Cottage Grove's long history with railroading, Temple said, adding that the Armory is a great place to host such a display. "It worked out really well for us," he said. "We want to show people that there are a variety of scales and things that you can do with model trains. Of particular interest to many was the display by Jim Davenport of

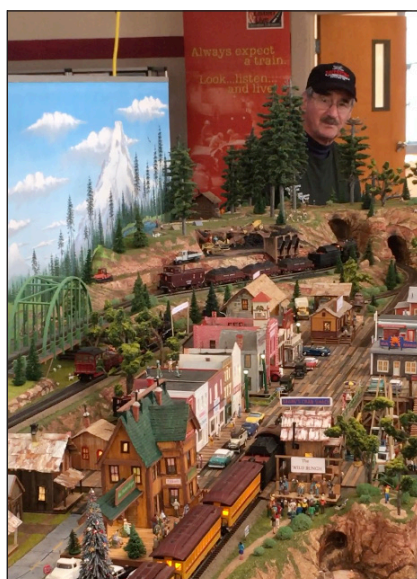


photo by Jon Stinnett

Jim Davenport's display fascinated Armory visitors.

Coos Bay, who showcased a stunning miniature town including a baseball game, logging operation, fishermen, painters and a whole lot more. The handmade display reportedly took Davenport six months to prepare. Temple said the club is looking forward to a return to the Armory in 2018.

UPCOMING EVENTS at the ARMORY

Saturdays, Dec. 2, 9, 16 — South Valley Farmers Holiday Market
Local organic produce, farm goods, handcrafts and holiday spirit in the Armory. For more information, email SVFarmersonMain@gmail.com.

Friday, Dec. 8 — Coast Fork Watershed Council Soiree
An evening of live music, local food, libations, awards and a silent auction to celebrate the Coast Fork Watershed. More information is available by calling 541-767-9717.

Saturday, Jan. 20 — Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet
A special time to recognize individuals and businesses who truly stand out through their volunteerism and excellent business practices in our community. More information is available by calling 541-942-2411.

Saturday, Jan. 27 — Habitat for Humanity Crab Feed
A delicious meal to benefit affordable housing in the Cottage Grove area. More information is available by calling 541-767-0358.

'Wishlist' highlights Armory needs

Donations of items such as these can expand opportunities in the building:

- *6-foot resin folding tables**
- *Indoor regulation basketballs**
- *Music Stands**
- *Free-standing shelving unit**
- *Spotlight**

These items can be donated by groups or individuals, who can also sponsor their purchase for use at the Armory. Also, many thanks are due to those who donated items from our wishlist in August!

Progress

Recent fundraising successes

Armory exterior restoration fundraising

Totals as of November 9, 2017

Total Budget: \$839,720.75

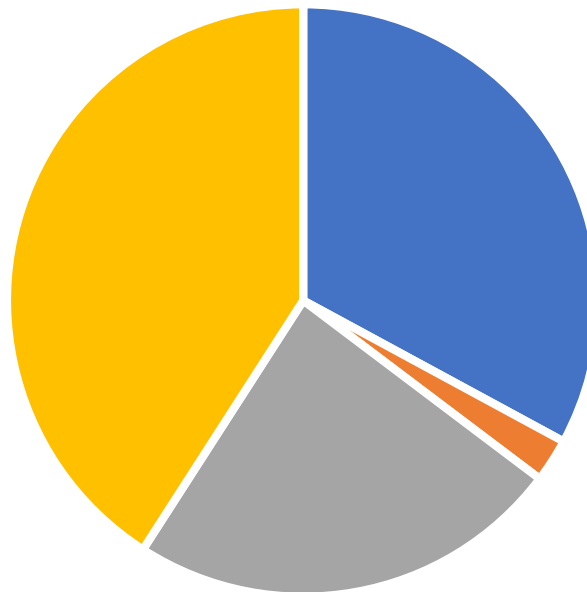
Raised to Date - \$276,278

Committed - \$20,000

Planned - \$200,000

To be Raised: \$343,442

FUNDRAISING FOR ARMORY EXTERIOR RENOVATION



To date, a total of \$1,166,124.57 has been raised toward the overall restoration effort!

■ Raised to Date ■ Committed ■ Planned ■ To be Raised

Participation

How to get involved in the restoration effort

Much like the original construction project that brought the Armory to Cottage Grove, a coordinated community effort will be vital in its restoration. Here's how you can help:

Become a Donor

Opportunities to contribute can be tailored to your preferences and your budget.

Volunteer

There are many ways to contribute your time and talents to

the restoration effort.

Spread the Word

Tell your friends and neighbors about the exciting event you recently attended at the Armory, or share stories about the many great memories you've made there over the years.

For more information on the Armory project or how you can contribute to the restoration effort, contact Christina Lund at 541-942-2441.

TESTS, from page 1

around the state that reportedly contained unsafe levels of lead dust prompted the City to initiate testing of the Cottage Grove Armory in the spring. Repeated testing showcased a pattern: lead levels increased following events held in the building. "We would conduct a test, and the numbers would be so low," Lund said. "We would have an event, and the numbers would go up again." City officials narrowed down the possible cause to the paint on the Armory's iconic exterior staircases. City Manager Richard Meyers said that the Armory had first been tested for lead in 2004, and that

media coverage was based on data from these old tests. Most recently, the City opted to test some of the few areas that had shown previous concentrations of lead.

"We tested in the vicinity of the other tests that had been high," Meyers said. "We also threw in some others in areas that we suspect would be high as a result of our previous experience with the stairs, and we added in the foyer, which had never been tested before." In early August, a crew with Global Pacific Environmental used a process similar to sand-blasting that utilizes dry ice

pellets to remove the paint from the steps. The process was spurred in part by a generous financial contribution from Cottage Grove's Larry and Kathy Bottemiller.

During September's tests, three locations of the drill hall gym floor and on the south company room floor were tested. Each test showed lead levels below 10 micrograms per square foot, the threshold for detection.

"The levels were below the ability to test them" Lund explained, "so for all practical purposes, they're at zero."