



The Chairman's Report

By Pierre duPont Irving

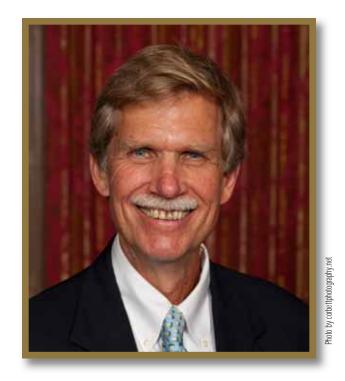
Delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 11, 2009

The Preservation Society's recent acquisition of the John Singer Sargent portrait of Cornelius Vanderbilt II gives me a wonderful opportunity to talk to you about the museum that it has become today.

Our museum collections are comprised of over 40,000 catalogued objects either original to the houses or reflecting as closely as possible what would have been in their interiors. In some cases, like Chepstow and Kingscote, the houses were given to the Preservation Society with their entire contents intact. How fortunate we were. In other cases, as What is with The Elms and Chateau-sur-Mer, their contents were sold at public auction and the Preservation Society has been patiently unique about the working to bring back and restore their original interiors.

Preservation Tociety's What is unique about the Preservation Society's collections is that they reside within another collection, collections is that they the Preservation Society's eleven iconic houses. Collections of similar objects reside within another are sometimes distributed throughout different houses and do not appear together as they do in conventional museums. This may make their scope and significance less apparent to the casual visitor than would otherwise be the case.

The acquisition, conservation, and interpretation of the collections have been of paramount importance in building and maintaining their integrity. The Preservation Society has recently engaged in several initiatives which will serve to illustrate in a representative manner what it is doing in each of these areas.



In acquisition, I will tell you a little about The Elms overdoor paintings, which have been part of an ongoing story about bringing back original objects to the houses.

Acquisition is but the beginning of the story. The care and conservation of the collection is equally as important and I will tell you about the fascinating work which is being done to conserve The Elms lacquer panels.

> Then there is the challenge of the interpretation of the collections. The Preservation Society is engaged in planning an exhibition next year in the Gothic Room at Marble House, and I want to tell you about that as well.

At the time The Elms was built. the dining room and gallery were designed for the display of a cycle of ten 18th century Venetian history paintings which had originally been in the Corner Palace in Venice. The series comprised four large murals and six overdoors by various Italian artists depicting Scipio and distinguished members of the Corner family at significant historical events. It was the largest cycle of 18th

Prior to the Preservation Society acquiring The Elms in 1962, its contents, including the six overdoors, were sold at auction. The four large murals in the gallery depicting Scipio remained because they could not safely be removed from the gallery wall.

century Venetian history paintings outside of Italy.

collection ...

In 2004, four of the six overdoors were secured and brought back to The Elms with money drawn from the collections reserve and help from private donors, thus reuniting eight of the ten paintings in the original cycle. The two remaining overdoors will soon go up for auction in London. One is by the school of

Sebastiano Ricci, and the other has been reliably attributed to

Sabastiano Ricci himself whose *Last Supper* hangs in the National Gallery of Art. The Preservation Society intends to be at that auction to see if once again with authorized funds from the collections reserve and help from potential private donors it can secure at least one of the remaining overdoors. Whether or not the Preservation Society will be successful we won't know until the auction takes place.

[Ed. Note: The paintings did not meet their reserve at the Sotheby's London July 8, 2009 Old Master Paintings Sale and remain on the market. Any contributions towards their purchase, payable to the Society's Collections Reserve, would be most gratefully appreciated.]

What is important, as with the acquisition of the Sargent portrait, is there is a strategy in place to bring this important collection back together and that we will be there to try.

The Preservation Society has not always been successful in its efforts to secure important objects original to the houses at auction, but fortune can sometimes smile upon us in strange ways. It was reported in the Spring issue of the *Newport Gazette* last year that the Preservation Society was able to reacquire for The Elms, through private sale, the only original Della Robia thought to remain in private hands. That was only a part of the story.

The piece in question was a framed terra cotta haut-relief plaque of a seraphim attributed to Florencian Andrea Della Robbia, circa 1490-1595. The cherubic plaque had been in the collection of Emile Gavet in Paris from 1889-1897 and was sold by Jules Allard to E.J. Berwind in 1899. It remained in the Berwind collection until the auction of the contents of The Elms in 1962, when it was sold to the New York dealer and collector Edward Lubin. The piece remained in Mr. Lubin's collection until 2007 when it was sold to a California collector, Mr. Hunt, for \$28,000. The Preservation Society had been at that auction, but unfortunately the bidding had gone beyond the level it had



Gene Roberts and Pierre Irving unveil the John Singer Sargent portrait of Cornelius Vanderbilt II, purchased at auction and returned to The Breakers.

established and the Della Robbia was lost. It was a disappointing piece of news, but we had tried.

In an
extraordinary
occurrence, en route
to California the
Della Robbia was
damaged in transit,
and Mr. Hunt
decided that he no
longer wanted it.

Through the efforts of Paul Miller and the Collections Committee it

was subsequently purchased from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for \$5,500. It has been beautifully restored and now hangs in the library at The Elms, returning at last by a somewhat circuitous route.

Every object in the Preservation Society's collection has a story behind it, and often the history of how they arrived at the houses is as fascinating as the intrinsic artistic value of the objects themselves.

The proper conservation of objects in our collection is as important as their acquisition. In The Elms is a unique room which so far as we know is the only surviving room of its type in the United States. In the northwest corner of the house, just off the dining room, is the Chinese breakfast room, designed entirely around a set of Chinese black and gold lacquer panels from the K'ang Hsi period (1680-1720). The panels were likely exported from China to France by 1770 and used as wall decoration in a Parisian townhouse.

In the late 17th century it was considered the height of good taste among fashionable Europeans to have a Chinoiserie room, and since Mr. Berwind was recreating in 1901 an 18th century French chateau with its original interior elements, he commissioned such a room for his house. It is well worth a visit if you haven't yet seen it. The antique panels which surround the room are made of wood decorated with Asian lacquer. Lacquer was a rare and expensive material distilled from the sap of trees related to poison ivy and sumac. As you might imagine, the material presented quite a challenge to the artisan to work with. It was applied to the wood in many layers and cured into a very hard and durable surface of great beauty.

Over the years, the finish has aged and shown continuing deterioration with cracking and cloudy areas. Within the past two years, the Preservation Society has begun a multi-faceted effort to restore The Elms lacquer panels. With financial support from the Berwind Corporation and The Getty Foundation, the

groundwork for their restoration is being laid in a thoughtful and methodical manner, and research into methods of conservation is groundbreaking in its own right. Very few lacquer rooms still exist in the world. The ones we know of for certain are in Vienna at Schloss Schonbrunn and the Palais Esterhazy and in Sweden at Drottningholm Palace.



One of the lacquer panels is carefully removed from the wall in The Elms Breakfast Room for closer inspection.

Last year, the Preservation Society's Chief Conservator, Jeff Moore, travelled to Vienna where he met Silvia Miklin-Kniefacz and her associates to discuss and examine their conservation treatments of the lacquer panels in Vienna. His research is helping to plan the strategy for the conservation of the panels at The Elms. Jeff is also researching the best method to introduce climate control into the breakfast room to stabilize the environment for the panels. The Elms Chinese panel restoration promises to be an exciting and challenging project which has an interesting educational dimension for conservationists as well. Over fifty thousand dollars has been spent to date and the continuing restoration will cost several hundred thousand dollars more. We are hoping for foundation and private support as we move forward.

The interpretation of our collection is a vital aspect of our museum mission and planning is continually underway to show our collections in new and exciting ways. In the spring and summer of 2010, the Preservation Society, in conjunction with the Ringling Museum of Sarasota, Florida, will host an exhibition entitled: Gothic Art in the Gilded Age: Medieval Treasures in the Gavet-Vanderbilt-Ringling Collection. In 1889, as Marble House was being built, William and Alva Vanderbilt met with their architect Richard Morris Hunt in Paris to discuss furnishings. At the time, Emile Gavet, an architect, collector and dealer was offering for sale an eclectic collection of Medieval works of art which spanned the 13th to 16th centuries. Yes, he was the same Gavet who originally owned the Della Robbia that made it back to The Elms library. The Vanderbilts bought roughly half of his collection, nearly 400 pieces, and invited Mr. Gavet to Marble House to direct its installation into the Gothic Room. These objects were displayed there until 1928 when Alva sold almost the entire collection to John Ringling, through the English art dealer Joseph Duveen, for his house in Sarasota. Mr. Duveen cherry-picked a Della Robbia relief for himself, and it now hangs in the main hall of the Metropolitan Museum.

The exhibition will open this winter at the Ringling Museum in Sarasota. It will then move to Newport for the spring and summer of 2010. Over 350 objects will return to the Gothic Room at Marble House. It will retrace the formation of this once celebrated collection in 19th century Paris, its installation by Gavet in his Gothic-style

apartment on the quai Notre Dame, its purchase by Alva Vanderbilt and installation in the Gothic Room in Newport, and finally its appeal and sale to John Ringling. The aim of the exhibition as explored by Paul Miller of the Preservation Society and Virginia Brilliant of the Ringling Museum will be to tell about how pre-Renaissance art was viewed and appreciated, and to follow its display from the banks of the Seine, to the cliffs of Newport, to the tropical shoreline of Sarasota. It is as much a story of the unique personalities of the dealers and their clients as the works of art themselves.

When the exhibition is over, approximately one third of the objects from the Ringling Museum will remain in the Gothic Room on loan. It will be the most ambitious exhibition that the Preservation Society has ever undertaken, and we are delighted to have the opportunity to collaborate with the Ringling Museum in an exhibition which is national in scope.

These activities offer insight into the museum that the Preservation Society is today. It is our mission of historic preservation that gave birth to this museum, and that mission still remains strong. Our houses and their collections continue to promote the value of historic preservation to the millions of visitors from all over the world who have come to experience our iconic properties.

We are able to do these wonderful things only with your help and I want to thank all of you here tonight, and our members and supporters around the country and abroad for your ongoing interest and support. It is so important to our success.

I also want to recognize and thank our hard-working board of trustees and the extraordinary professional staff for the work that they do to ensure such excellence in our organization. As you all are aware, due to the state of the economy museums have suffered along with everybody else. It is a tribute to our entire staff and the leadership of our Executive Director Trudy Coxe that we are able to sit here tonight and I can tell you about these exciting plans for the future.



CEO & Executive Director's Report

By Trudy Coxe

Delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 11, 2009

et me begin by acknowledging one very simple, but crucial success factor. For us to have finished our fiscal year in March with a surplus, and for this organization to be able to survive without laying anybody off may not have a lot of pizzazz, but it has been a very, very important part of our efforts over the last few months.

To love an organization might sound peculiar, but, in my mind, the Preservation Society is an organization that is worth supporting, worth being part of, and yes, loving. And if you look at some of the data, you have to believe that people really do.

For example: at the end of May we had nearly 9,000 memberships. That's about 20,000 people. The Preservation Society right now is one of the largest membership organizations in the region, and is three times larger than it was ten years ago. When you read articles about people not caring anymore about history or the fact that the arts are in decline, think about that number, 20,000 people supporting The Preservation Society of Newport County. I think that's a tremendous statement.

Our fundraising programs are on a roll, with the Annual Fund achieving close to \$640,000. Our attendance is up 4 percent

over what it was two years ago - a tremendous achievement compared to other museums. Special events such as the Tiffany Ball have been exceedingly successful. Mary Van Pelt, Leslie Hull, Gladys Szápáry and others were very much involved in that event, and we thank them. We had a great time recreating the original ball from the 1950s and it brought Tiffany & Co. back to the Preservation Society. The Flower Show was a great success, affirming that when it comes to horticulture and gardening there is no organization better than the Preservation Society. Finally, our Wine & Food Festival, which is designed to attract younger people so that we can have many, many new members in the future, was a wonderful success. It was two days of fun, and we are looking forward to our fourth such festival this summer.

Nearly every day of the week, on almost every single property there is some sort of preservation or conservation project underway. In fact, there are dozens of projects underway but two stand out: restoration of the ceiling at Chateau-sur-Mer, and the restoration of the front gates at The Breakers.



The gates at The Breakers were taken down in the spring and shipped to New Jersey for extensive restoration. Photo by Andrea Carneiro

You will remember a little about this from last year's annual meeting. The Chateau's Tree of Life mural, which winds its way up three staircases to the ceiling, is probably one of the loveliest murals you can imagine. It's whimsical, it's colorful, it's very pretty, and close up it is equally impressive. Unfortunately, it fell to the ground more than a year and a half ago, into a bazillion pieces, leaving us with a real dilemma. Should we restore it or not? We are a preservation organization, so, of course, we decided to preserve it.

Over a period of months our staff spent many hours working to assemble all those pieces. It was a huge undertaking, with volunteers and staff equally involved. Today I am happy to report that we are 90 percent of the way there—the mural is almost complete. Many of the pieces have been glued together; the next step is to fill in the cracks and do some infill painting. We have about 900 hours more work to do, and if all goes well

we will have that mural back on the ceiling by 2011. This is a very important restoration project, primarily because we are doing it for the sake of restoration, since this ceiling is not on public view. We are doing it because it is the right thing to do.

The second major project is restoration of the front gates at The Breakers. From a distance the gates looked fine, but close up there's a different picture: lots of deterioration and rusting, resulting in the loss of many decorative elements. Restoring the gates was certainly an important project for us since the gates are the first image that our visitors see when they arrive at The Breakers. With the help of a grant from the Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust, and financial support from the Loebs Family Foundation and the Hope Foundation, we have been able to undertake a restoration of these impressive gates.

The job is being done by Lodi, a firm in New Jersey, and it has been a complicated one from the beginning. Can you imagine moving 37,000 pounds of raw iron to New Jersey? There are six people working six days a week, with a goal of having those gates back in place by mid-fall. Curt Genga, our Properties Director, goes to New Jersey every two weeks to ensure the work is being



Conservation technician John Bartosh uses a system of dowels to secure small fragments from the Chateau-sur-Mer ceiling as they are re-assembled into larger pieces and glued together. Photo by Jeff Moore

done properly, that the restoration is on schedule and on budget. For his efforts Curt deserves a tremendous amount of credit.

Now, I am going to change gears completely and go from conservation and restoration to another important part of our mission, education. Probably the most important challenge facing museums today, and it's a topic that is actively discussed by museum directors, curators and education staff, is how to be relevant. That is, how to make sure that we are connecting with our museum visitors. How do we engage and inspire our visitors to want to learn about their heritage and our shared past? We have devoted many hours to this soul-searching task. And, we have relied upon academicians from around the country to look at the content of our tours and give us feedback about what they like, what they don't like, what they would like to learn, and what is of no interest at all to them.

Over the past ten years we have quietly gone about conducting a tremendous amount of research into the history of The Breakers. This effort culminated in the creation of a new tour. The audio tour opened to the public at the beginning of April and thus far has received rave reviews.

We are very excited about the attention that it is getting. There are many stories embodied in the tour, and I want to share with you tonight an audio presentation of two of those stories. The first one you are going to hear is the voice of a woman named Mary Seliga. Mary is the daughter of Magda Goodheart, who worked for the Vanderbilt family at The Breakers. This audio segment begins with talk about the "fading of Newport" as described in a *Time* magazine article that appeared in the mid-1940s. The Breakers was largely unused for ten years during that period, and many were unsure of its eventual fate:

"That was a sad time for my mother. My mom, dad and I used to walk around the cliffs very frequently and she would just stare and look at it [The Breakers] and I would imagine all the things going on in her mind. It was sad to see it close. And, my parents were very happy when it opened again for the



Pierre and Kathy Irving were among the first to try out the new audio tour at The Breakers. The tour has received rave reviews from visitors. Photo by Andrea Carneiro

tours [in 1948]; they were just overjoyed that others would get a chance to see what it was like."

I wanted you to hear Mary's comments, because there is such poignancy to her voice. I think it is unbelievable that since 1948, when The Breakers opened for public viewing, more than 20 million people have had a chance to see "what it was like."

The second segment is about Rudolf Stanish. He is, in my mind, an example of a great American success story. He started working for the Vanderbilt family when he was 14 years old as kitchen help, and went on to become the head chef at Goldman Sachs. *Time* magazine dubbed him "the Omelet King." In fact, he invented an omelet pan and 3 million of them were sold. As the story goes, Rudolf got his fame in Newport when Frederick Prince, then-owner of Marble House, asked Rudolf, "Can we have something at our party other than scrambled eggs and ham?" Rudolf then replied, "I will make you an omelet."

He went on to have the honor of preparing the inaugural breakfast for President John F. Kennedy. When you hear his remarks I think you will gain a flavor of his view of what a great privilege it was to work at The Breakers:

"Cast iron coal and wood burning stoves stretch out over 21 feet. Plenty of room too because the team of cooks needed to feed the Vanderbilts, their guests and all the staff...And of course everything was French: how we cut the vegetables, we didn't measure, we did everything by the smell, look and texture...Since a kitchen working at full steam was a very hot place, pastry was prepared in the smaller room [pastry room] which could be kept cooler... Everything was kept chilled, created by ice, it's a different cold. Those were glorious times. It was the style of living in the grand manner. I can see the beauty of it now."

I hope you will agree that Rudolf Stanish was a colorful character. He died in February 2008, and we interviewed him in 2000. He was 95 years old when he passed away, and he couldn't have been a more handsome, more impressive person.

So, I have given you a few vignettes of The Breakers audio tour, and some of the highlights of the past year. There has been lots of good news.

I want to conclude by just taking a moment to talk from the heart. While on the surface everything looks great, and in fact a lot of things are going very well, I have to confess that the last ten months have been very tough. Like every museum, every small and large business, including General Motors, every government, local, state, federal, every non-profit in this country, we have been put to the test because of the economy.

A part of me says that being put to that test hasn't been so bad, because we have learned a lot about our strength, our internal strength. One thing that I know is that our internal strength comes from all of you in this room, and all of those 20,000 other people who as members support the Preservation Society. Your involvement with us really matters.

I am not a football fan; in fact, I couldn't tell you who won this year's Super Bowl championship. But I do love Al Pacino and his movie Any Given Sunday. There's a pivotal scene in the movie in which Al Pacino, who plays the head coach, is talking to the team during half time. The team is losing, and so he tells them that they have got to play as a team, and go at it "inch by inch, play by play" until they are finished, because there is no other choice but to do that. And he explains how football and life are very similar in that football and life are games of inches. Now, perhaps at first blush this doesn't correlate to the Preservation Society. But at this moment in history, with all the difficulties that we face, to me that message of taking it inch by inch is a very important one to learn from. Especially in times like these when it is very hard to focus way out there in the distance as we grapple with the day-to-day struggles and the

here-and-now problems. During difficult times one has to remember to maintain one's perspective, and pause often to celebrate every single one of those inches that we gain.

So, it is the inches that count. It is Gene Roberts urging us to find a way to bring the Sargent painting back to The Breakers. We win by inches. It is all of our full-time staff, every single one of them working several hours a week in the houses on top of doing their regular jobs, in order to help keep our payroll costs down. We win by inches. It is the visitors who come from China and Japan and France and Italy; as they walk into The Breakers, they all seem to know one word in common: "Wow." We win by inches. It is the fifty dollar, the hundred dollar, the thousand dollar gift. I don't care what amount it is, it is important. It's you coming to our events, being at our lectures, being a part of this organization that really counts and makes the difference.

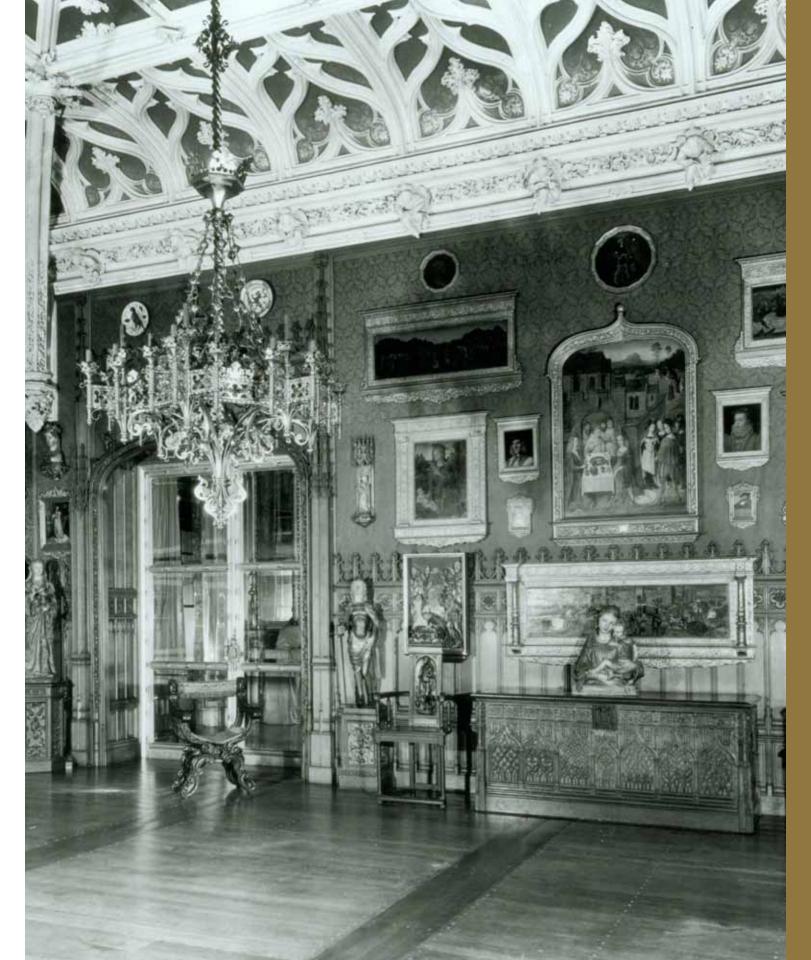
I have no idea where we will be in ten years but I do know two things. And the first thing is that when all is said and done, people need stories. Stories bind us together. Stories inform us, they teach us, they inspire us. Stories make us laugh, they make us cry, we learn from stories. And the one thing that we do well at the Preservation Society is that we tell good stories. Our stories are fantastic. We do it through our tours, our educational activities, and our preservation and our conservation efforts. We are good story tellers, and that is what you are supporting.

The second thing I know is that as corny as it may sound we have got to stay together as a team. Maybe we won't always agree, but we have got to stay strong together; our staff, our Board, our volunteers and our members. We have got to be united and keep our momentum going so that as we face head-on the hardships that come our way, we persevere. I can honestly tell you the way we have gotten through the last ten months is by taking it one step at a time, one inch at a time. Our vision remains miles out there but our focus is on the inches.

So, I hope that you will stay with us, and that you will continue to love the Preservation Society because it is an organization worth loving. With your help we now go into what I hope will be an equally successful year.

Thank you all very much for your support!

A vintage view of the Gothic Room of Marble House, showing pieces from the Gavet collection that will be returning for an exhibition in 2010. Preservation Society archives





Treasurer's Report

By Donald O. Ross

Delivered at the Preservation Society's Annual Meeting, June 11, 2009

t seems that every year has been a difficult one to see budgets through to the conclusion of a fiscal year and not worry about something, either the economy, attendance, gasoline prices, arranging insurance or something else. This past year was no exception. I am pleased to report, however, that in this past fiscal year which ended March 31, we achieved a slight surplus of \$77,000. Total visits were actually up 1.2% over the prior year, which came on top of a rise of 2.3% the previous year, and our admission revenue exceeded budgeted expectations by 5%. Admissions represent about 40% of our total revenue sources. Our budget process had actually called for a decline in admission revenue, since we were faced with skyrocketing gasoline prices at the beginning of last year.

With regard to other revenue sources, we saw memberships contributed \$745,000, about even with last year, and we had our most successful Annual Fund ever this past year, raising over \$638,000. Total gifts contributed to the Preservation Society were almost \$3.3 million, including over \$1.1 million in value of collections objects contributed, and almost \$350,000 of other non-cash contributions. Once again Caroline Considine and her team did an outstanding job. And many thanks to all of you who contributed so generously yet again.

On the less rosy fronts, our museum store sales were down 10% from budget, but that was a great deal better than retailing around the country. Cynthia O'Malley continues to put her stamp on our stores, and while retailing is still soft, her efforts thus far this year look better than originally projected. Our most challenging area has been Special Events, heroically managed by Phil Pelletier, as companies have pulled back significantly on holding corporate events at our houses.

On the expense front, the Preservation Society's management has kept a good handle on core expenses, and managed to cut variable expenses in line with our reduced special events and store revenues, which thereby led to our modest surplus.

Capital expenditures last year amounted to \$440,000, about half of which was for the continuing Chateau-sur-Mer roof restorations. This was slightly less than the prior year's' spending. We believe we have been keeping up with deferred maintenance, but like all home owners, we always spot something that needs attention.

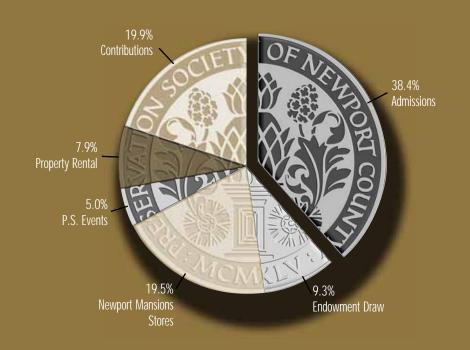
Our endowment, like other non-profit endowments, was hurt by the markets, and was off by about 25%. Anticipating our annual draw, we did raise some additional cash last October

to prudently avoid having to raise cash during one of those horrendous market slides. Our liquidity is excellent at this point and we see some definite signs of healing in our well-diversified endowment. We are not changing the overall plan, and we did not have the liquidity problems that some of the best known endowments have had.

As far as budgeting for Fiscal Year 2010, we started the process a bit earlier this time around and the Board approved the plan in March. As you might expect, we had a very difficult time developing a sensible plan in the middle of an economic category five hurricane. We knew corporate sponsorships and events at the houses would be significantly lower and we had to assume that our store sales would not be immune to the national trends. We therefore had to look at where we could make significant cuts in the budget, while maintaining sufficient resources to keep the houses and grounds the way our visitors like to see them. Our goal was not to have any layoffs. Again we are targeting a balanced budget for 2010. Early indications are that visits are running slightly better than planned, thanks in part to a new audio tour at The Breakers.

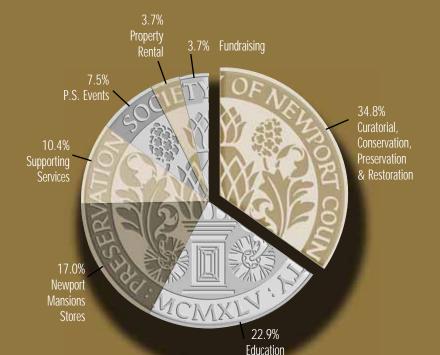
In closing, once again I want to thank the members of the Finance Committee, who put in a lot of time reviewing and discussing some difficult issues. I particularly want to thank Jim Burress and his Finance Department staff, who continue to do a fabulous job for the Preservation Society.

While we appear to be well positioned, with budget cuts and a reduced endowment, our financial flexibility is more strained than in past years. But we will get through this period with creative thinking, good fundraising efforts, and continued hard work.



REVENUE

Admissions	38.4%
Contributions	19.9%
Newport Mansions Stores	19.5%
Endowment Draw	9.3%
Property Rental	7.9%
Pres. Society Events	5.0%



EXPENSES

Curatorial, Conservation, Preservation & Restoration	34.8%
Education	22.9%
Newport Mansions Stores	17.0%
Supporting Services	10.4%
Pres. Society Events	7.5%
Property Rental	3.7%
Fundraising	3.7%

Lawred Havaras 2008 2009

Recognition of Outstanding Vervice, Artisanship or Leadership

The Laurel Award is given annually by the Preservation Society in recognition of outstanding service, artisanship or leadership in support of its mission. This year, three Laurel Awards were bestowed at the Annual Meeting in June.



Denise Aguiar, Marilyn Archibald, Blake Billings, Brian Burns, Charles Gardner, Lillian Kimball, Sheila Lang and Raymond Picozzi

For weeding, watering and working tirelessly in the Preservation Society's many gardens.

Pierre Irving, Jeff Curtis, Charlie Gardner, Norey Dotterer Cullen, Raymond Picozzi, Lillion Kimball, Marilyn Archibald, and Brian Burns Photo by corbettphotography.net



David Crocker, Crocker Architectural Sheet Metal Company

In recognition of the company's sympathetic and highly skilled achievements in the field of historic roof restoration at The Breakers and Chateau-sur-Mer.

Jeremy Crocker, Chris Crocker Lusignan, David Crocker, William Willson, Pierre Irving, and Ralph Gillespie Photo by corbettphotography.net

Richard Guy Wilson, Ph.D

In recognition of his support and counsel in securing National Historic Landmark status for key Preservation Society properties, and for his vision in annually showcasing Newport's architectural heritage to international scholars as director of the Victorian Society Summer School.



Richard Guy Wilson and Pauline Metcalf Photo by corbettphotography.net



The following individuals were elected to the Preservation Society's Board of Trustees for the 2009-2010 fiscal year at the Society's annual meeting on June 11, 2009:

OFFICERS

Chairman Emeritus John G. Winslow

Chairman Pierre duPont Irving

Vice Presidents Carol C. Ballard Angela Brown Fischer David P. Leys Keith W. Stokes

Treasurer Donald O. Ross

Assistant Treasurer Peter Damon

Secretary Susan S. Stautberg

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OVERSEERS

Marion O. Charles Hope Drury Goddard Jerome R. Kirby Richard N. Sayer, Esq. John J. Slocum, Jr. George H. Warren John G. Winslow

Seated, left to right: Leila Jenkins, Monty Burnham, Angela Moore, Carol Ballard, Susan Stautberg, Angela Fischer, Mary Van Pelt, Eaddo Kiernan

Standing, left to right: David Lindh, Joseph Hammer, William Wilson, Donald Ross, Pierre Irving, Arthur Murphy, Keith Stokes, Andrew Reilly, Richard Loebs, Jr., Frank Ray, David Ford, Peter Damon

Not Pictured: Nancy Cushing, Ronald Lee Fleming, John Muggeridge, Pat Stensrud

Photo by corbettphotography.net

The Preservation Society extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to these outgoing members of the Board of Trustees for their contributions:

OUTGOING TRUSTEES

Sarah M. Gewirz Kathleen Kirby Greenman Eugene B. Roberts, Jr. Paul L. Szápáry

Full Time Employees

OFFICE OF THE CEO & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Trudy Coxe, CEO & Executive Director Terry L. Dickinson Colleen Breitenstein

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

John R. Tschirch, Director Patricia L. Toomey

CONSERVATION

Charles J. Moore. *Chief Conservator* John Bartosh Jessica L. Urick

CURATORIAL

Paul F. Miller, Curator Charles J. Burns Claudia E. Thiel Laurene Vivieros

DEVELOPMENT

Caroline E. Considine. Director Linda A. Eppich James A. Roehm Kari Van Buren

EDUCATIONAL SALES

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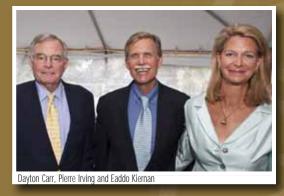
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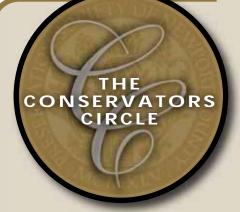
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OUR MISSION

Great Houses connect people to a nation's heritage and open windows to another age. The Preservation Society of Newport County is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect, preserve, and present an exceptional collection of house museums and landscapes in one of the most historically intact cities in America. We hold in public trust the Newport Mansions which are an integral part of the living fabric of Newport, Rhode Island. These sites exemplify three centuries of the finest achievements in American architecture, decorative arts, and landscape design spanning the Colonial era to the Gilded Age. Through our historic properties, educational programs, and related activities we engage the public in the story of America's vibrant cultural heritage. We seek to inspire and promote an appreciation of the value of preservation to enrich the lives of people everywhere.

PRESERVATION SOCIETY PROPERTIES

Arnold Burying Ground (1675)

Hunter House (circa 1748)

Kingscote (1839-1841)

Chateau-sur-Mer (1851-1852)

Green Animals Topiary Garden (circa 1860)

Chepstow (1860-1861)

Isaac Bell House (1881-1883)

424 Bellevue Avenue (1887-1888)

Marble House (1888-1892)

The Breakers (1893-1895)

The Breakers Stable & Carriage House (1895)

The Elms (1899-1901)

Rosecliff (1899-1902)

Rovensky Park (1959)

Front Cover: The Elms at night

Photo by Roskelly Inc.

Back Cover: The Elms sitting room at Christmas

Photo by Ira Kerns



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