

SAVE OUR  
SEMINARY



AT FOREST GLEN

# SOS NEWS

Winter 2018-2019  
Vol. 28 No. 1

9615 Dewitt Drive #68  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301-589-1715  
[info@saveourseminary.org](mailto:info@saveourseminary.org)  
[www.saveourseminary.org](http://www.saveourseminary.org)  
[www.facebook.com/saveourseminary](https://www.facebook.com/saveourseminary)

SOS News is the newsletter of Save Our Seminary, the nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the historic National Park Seminary and engaging the public through education and advocacy since 1989.

## Events for 2019

Mark your calendars now for the following SOS events of the year – our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year!

Tuesday, March 12, 7:30 pm

**30 Years of SOS: A Look Back – and Ahead**

Sunday, May 19, 2 pm

**History Mystery – A Scavenger Hunt**

Thursday, September 26, 7:30 pm

**The Fashionable Ladies of NPS**

Saturday, November 16

**Happy Birthday, SOS!**

In addition to the above events, we will also continue our monthly guided tours on the fourth Saturday of the months from March through November. Enclosed is a brochure that lists all the tour dates and the events with details, which are also listed on our website. All these tours and events are open to the public.

## 30 Years of SOS: A Look Back – and Ahead

Everyone is invited to our annual meeting scheduled for March 12 at 7:30 pm in the Ballroom, where we will provide an overview

of SOS's many accomplishments since our founding in 1989. We have spent the past year examining our organization and planning for its future. We will share the results of our strategic planning efforts, highlighting how SOS is adapting to the interests of our members, NPS residents, and others.

With refreshments in hand, we invite you to visit the displays for each of our committees – Education, Archives, Sculpture, and Communications – and we'll introduce our newest committee, the Glen Restoration Committee. We hope you can join us in celebrating our past 30 years – and the next 30 years!

## Hiawatha To Be Restored

After a dedicated fundraising campaign, SOS is pleased to announce that we have all funds in hand to restore the statue known as Hiawatha! Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends during our dedicated 2018 push for funds, we have raised the remaining \$7,000 of the estimated \$26,000 needed for repairs.

We anticipate selecting a conservation team this spring. Hiawatha will be temporarily removed from his base on Linden Lane next

to the former Spanish Mission sorority house for restoration. We look forward to his rejuvenated return later this year!

We thank all donors for their generosity in making this restoration possible. Those who gave \$500 or more to the sculpture fund are recognized on the SOS honor plaque in the main lobby at National Park Seminary.



### Busy Workers

Despite the winter weather, work on the Power Plant, firehouse/garage, and Practice Hall parcel has been proceeding rapidly. Practice House proudly displays a new roof and restored and freshly painted columns. New windows are currently being installed.

The firehouse/garage is also sporting a new roof and paint job – not only on its outside walls but also on the new pair of “garage doors,” which are a bright fire engine red!

The Power Plant, no longer a utilitarian building, is now framed out as luxury apartments with parking inside at the lowest level. It is possible the two units in the

firehouse/garage will be available by summer.

Some progress has been made on the two buildings on the other side of the glen, the Castle and the Villa. The Maryland Historical Trust, the state agency that must review and approve of all changes in the NPS historic district, approved the site plan for the redevelopment of those two buildings as residences, plus eight new townhouses. The next step will be review and approval by Montgomery County in order to acquire building permits.

### Class Plaques on Display

After more than a decade of being in storage, SOS is pleased to have the NPS class officer plaques from 1925 to 1933 once again hanging in the main hall of the main building, just a couple of yards from where they hung during the Army years.

Before restoration, all nine wooden plaques were bowed, cracked and/or water damaged. The generosity of two SOS members and the contractor allowed the plaques to be restored. After being carefully flattened and cleaned, the woodworker made wood frames for each plaque so they would remain flat and could be safely hung from the frame. Unfortunately, the finish on the most water-damaged plaque could not be improved because of possible harm to the original lettering.



There are two surprising class officer positions – the Cheerleader and the Mistress of Ceremonies. The inclusion of these offices reflects that sports and ceremonies were of great importance to the students.

## Letter Transcription Appeal

The Collections Committee is putting out a call for letter transcribers. Over the past few years, members of the Collections Committee have been digitizing letters found in the archives, and they will soon be looking for SOS members to help with transcription.

Following standard archival practice, two people will transcribe the same letter, and then a Collections Committee member will compare the two and produce a final version, which will be made available on the website. Interested SOS members should send an e-mail with the subject "SOS Letter Transcription Project" to [info@saveourseminary.org](mailto:info@saveourseminary.org). Requirements for participation are a computer with Adobe Acrobat Reader – and good eyes to interpret handwriting.

## Smile When You Shop Amazon!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Every item available for purchase on [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) is also available on AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)) at the same price. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)), you are prompted to

select a charitable organization from their list of eligible organizations. You can change your selection at any time. To select or change to SOS as your charitable organization:

1. Sign in to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to **Your Account** from the navigation at the top of any page, and then under **Shopping programs and rentals**, select the option to **Change your Charity**. Or, from your mobile browser, select **Change your Charity** from the options at the bottom of the page.
3. Search for **Save Our Seminary at Forest Glen**, and click on **Select**.

Shopping on AmazonSmile is an easy way to donate to SOS without cost to you. Thanks for your support!