

THE Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council BULLETIN

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meeting

When: 19 October 2005, 6:30 p.m.
Where: Cafeteria, new east wing of State Capitol

Preliminary Agenda:

- 6:30 Welcome by Peter von Sivers, Chair
Minutes of September
- 6:35 Police Report
- 6:50 Nomination of Officers for the
Capitol Hill Community Council
Roster
- 7:00 Reports by our Representatives in
the Utah Legislature and City
Council
- 7:15 Report by Gwen Springmeyer,
Liaison with the Mayor's Office
- 7:30 Discussion of the Parking Problem
around the Capitol during the
Legislative Session
- 8:00 Adjourn

NEXT MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Members

Chair	Peter Von Sivers	364-3310
Vice-Chair	Georg Stutzenberger	510-1603
Vice-Chair	Polly Hart	355-7203
Secretary	Christine Wade	918-0114
Treasurer	Kim Fowkes	521-0104
Historian	Hermoine Jex	364-5326

Neighborhood Trustees

Capitol	Carol Wood	355-6475
DeSoto/Cortez	Katherine Gardner	328-1724
Ensign Downs	Harries Lloyd	532-0754
Kimball	Victoria Collard	595-8575
St. Marks	Shauna Davenport	363-1905
Swedetown	Mary Solt	355-8507
Temple	Gene Simmons	364-3830
Warm Springs	Minta Brandon	355-1363
Washington	Bonnie Mangold	363-4634
West High	Erlinda Davis	531-1964
Mobile Watch	Joan Legge	355-8396
Web Site	Cassandra Van Buren	capitolhill@aros.net

Bulletin Staff

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Thoughts on the Law of Chickens, the Commute and the Goose by Bonnie Mangold, Transportation Advisory Board Member

Behind the wheel we easily forget the Law of Chickens: they come home to roost (otherwise known as the Golden Rule). How many of the thousands of commuters passing through our neighborhoods stop to think: Would I want this many cars speeding down my street? What impact am I having on this neighborhood, this city?

The commute is the natural consequence and tradeoff for the choice that many have made to leave *the City* for the 'good life' in small, outlying communities. The benefits of the nearby regional city (SLC) are still available without the drawbacks of high housing costs and taxes, greater crime levels and *commuter traffic through residential neighborhoods*. These outlying towns are viable only as long as *the City* is healthy and continues to provide the benefits of good jobs, superb medical facilities, world class Arts organizations, excellent restaurants, etc. It is in the best interests of those who have migrated to these outlying communities that they not strangle *the City* (the *Goose* that lays the golden egg) through ever increasing auto traffic and demands for easier commuter routes. If the commute is made too easy, at the expense of those who still live in *the City*, the regional city in the end becomes a ghost downtown surrounded by slums.

Do we, in our community, set the example we would like to have emulated? Or, do we, on our individual journeys unthinkingly use neighboring communities' residential streets, such as Second and Third Avenues, when more appropriate arterial streets such as First South and South Temple would serve adequately? In addition to examining our own driving and parking patterns perhaps we might begin a dialogue with friends who live in other neighborhoods or outside the City about what responsibilities of citizenship go with the rights and privileges we have, especially that privilege of moving around so freely. Rather than the collective goal for a preferred commuter route being 'fastest,' perhaps it could evolve to 'causing the least harm.'

Major changes often begin with small steps. The clean up of New York City began with the small step of not tolerating graffiti. The small step of orange flags at crosswalks has made Salt Lake City safer for pedestrians. In the end it is individuals who create change. *We can* make a difference.

Dear CHCC Bulletin Readers:

In the August edition of the CHCC Bulletin, the editor graciously allowed me to contribute an article entitled "The Real McCoy." A substantial portion of that article was taken from material from the website www.worldwidewords.org operated by Mr. Michael Quinion of Bristol, United Kingdom. Regrettably, the article published under my name did not give proper attribution and credit to Mr. Quinion. For that mistake, I take full responsibility and offer sincerest apologies both to him and to you.

Sincerely,
Scott McCoy

This Old House — West High School By Nelson Knight



West High School

While I am a proud East High grad, I've always envied the students of West High for the great building they have (I know it's odd, but preservationists care about such things, even at an early age). The East High building, though imposing, was largely gutted in a 1972 fire, so by the time I attended school there in the '80s the original interiors had been replaced by yellow wall

(Continued on page 2)

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panels and orange carpet. Later that building was demolished, and the new East High lacks the patina and character of even the heavily renovated 1914 building. The West High building feels, well, more genteel, and hearkens back to an earlier time when students, if not genuinely more well-behaved than the students of today, at least looked like it in photographs.

The current West High building replaced the building that was the subject of last month's column. Lewis Telle Cannon and John Fetzer, the architects of the sculpture-adorned Technical Building (also covered in last month's column) were hired by the Salt Lake City School District to design a new main building in 1919. Enrollment in the city's high schools rose from 458 in 1900 to 1220 in 1907, and even the opening of East High in 1914 did not relieve the pressure of expanding enrollment. Financing for the building came from a \$2.1 million bond issue, which included \$1.1 million to finance the West High complex. Cannon & Fetzer were known for their design of the Park Building at the University of Utah, the First Security Bank Building at 100 South and Main, and the old Deseret Gymnasium (on the site of the Church Office Building). Architect



West High students making fly traps

Cannon, H.A. Smith of the Board of Education, and the Board's superintendent of buildings toured the eastern and western United States to "inspect the latest and best high schools," according to a 1922 Salt Lake Municipal Record article.

With design work completed, William G. Reed was awarded the contract to construct the building. He is reported to have begun work about June 1, 1921, and to have completed construction by the time school opened in September 1922. In preparing the site, the old high school building was demolished.

The building is a neo-gothic, three-story structure, with a raised (or English) basement. Constructed of steel and reinforced concrete, the outer walls are of a dark reddish-brown brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern. Terra cotta trim accents the tops of piers, window surrounds and the cornice of the building. Originally the basement contained three cafeterias (one for the boys, one for the girls, and one for the teachers), as well as quarters for the school's military department and a bookstore. On the main floor were the school offices, classrooms,



West High students blacksmithing

and entrance to the auditorium. The upper two floors contained a library, numerous class and lecture rooms, science laboratories, drafting rooms and the music department, as well as access to the auditorium balcony.

The inside of the building is articulated with flat arches across the hallways, cast iron balusters in the stairways, terra cotta shield over the entryways of the building, and a Sausaba marble and tile foyer at the front entrance. The overall integrity of the original building has remained, down to the patriotic portraits in the hallways. Additions to the building were made in 1960, 1961, and 1970. The new gym for the school dates from 1977, and extensive changes were made to the campus when it was renovated and seismically upgraded in the late 1990s. This included construction of a new auditorium and demolition of the old technical building and 1953 gym.

Memories wanted: Do you know lots about your house (or even a little) and would you know like to know more? If you have interesting stories to share about your Capitol Hill building, you could be the subject of a future column. Contact Nelson Knight at the Utah State Historical Society (nwknight@utah.gov or 533-3562) to share your stories, memories, or photographs.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE & DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

- **Utah Food Bank**, 1025 S. 700 W., call 908-8660. This was Lowell Bennion's idea, as he would gather and distribute food for the needy in the back of his pick-up truck. When asked why, he said: "All those years, I used to teach religion; now I get to practice it."
- **Primary Children's Medical Center**, call 588-2446. Do Marie Osmond proud, and volunteer. Donate brand new books and stuffed animals. Call first to see what they'd like to

- have.
- **Crossroads Urban Center** 364-7765. Stuff is always needed; volunteers always wanted.
 - **Tre Utah**, www.treutah.org (The ".org" here means organic!) or call 364-2122
 - **Road Home**, 359-4142 or www.theroadhome.org.
 - **Utah Foster Care**, www.utahfostercare.org or call 994-5205. You may be able to make a difference in the life of a

- child or infant.
- **LDS 19th Ward Clothing Exchange** (225 W. 500 N.) Second Saturday of each month 9:00 am - Noon. Dig out your closets. Forget those 32 inch waisted Levis wasting away and wanting to be wasted by someone else.
 - **Kiwanis Club** (Capitol Hill) 999 South Main. Call Bonnie Archer at 328-1325 for more information. Member list reads like a Who's Who of Capitol Hill area. Be one of the few of the Who who know what's what.

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The City Council invites you to celebrate the completion of the District Three Olympic Legacy Project on October 22nd at 10:00 a.m.
Meet at the Memorial House in Memory Grove and from there take a brief tour of the project.
Please join us as we celebrate our Capitol Hill and Avenues communities.

FEATURED NEIGHBOR

Erma Wall

Railroad Wife, Neighborhood Pillar

Of all the demographic groups who contribute to our neighborhood, perhaps the people who give the most in terms of long-term stability and generosity are our widows and widowers. Chances are there are one or more within a few doors of you – someone who moved to Capitol Hill long ago, lived through a lifetime of work in the same home where they now live, perhaps raised a family who are since far-flung, and who are a grandma or grandpa not only to their own kin but to their neighbors at large.



teacher and truant officer, but after a couple of years, Erma says, they “found there wasn’t much money in teaching, so he went to work for the railroad.” Her sister, Inez Hurst, lived across the street from St. Mark’s Hospital on 800 North, and Jason’s co-worker at Union Pacific, Pete Sorenson, lived with his family at 700 North and 300 West. The Walls moved from Payson to west 700 North. “We liked it. It was close to Jason’s work and to people we knew.”

One of many great examples is Erma Wall who lives on 700 North near 400 West. When she and her husband Jason moved more than 60 years ago into the modest brick home where she still lives, FDR was in the White House, the United States hadn’t yet entered World War II, St. Mark’s Hospital was a thriving medical center just a block north, and 300 West (then known as Second West) was only a two-lane road.

Jason started as a hostler helper with the railroad and over the years rose through the ranks. They raised five children – Reed, Carla, Arlen, Scott, and Steven – took good care of the home on 700 North, and stayed there. Erma was once offered a job as a waitress at the Beanery café, but feared that “about the time one of the railroad men swore at me for making the coffee wrong, they’d fire me,” and turned it down. (She later worked for a time at the Salt Lake Home on 200 North.) Erma and Jason enjoyed some wonderful retirement years together before his death in 1995.

Erma’s parents farmed in Payson; her father was building a house for her mother when they married. She met Jason Wall while she was attending Payson High. She was a senior and he was a freshman at BYU who’d sometimes hop a ride on the school bus on his way home to Payson. Their acquaintance blossomed and they were married in 1936. They returned to BYU – unlikely as it now seems, one of only three married couples on campus.

Of course the neighborhood has changed through the years – Ball’s Market and Motel, operated by her friends Art and Marg Ball on the corner east of her, closed and has now been torn down; St. Mark’s Hospital has long since moved out, the building remodeled first as a penal diagnostic center, more recently as office space; some good friends have passed on while many remain. But Erma finds that, although she’s not as well acquainted with some of her neighbors as she once was, the quality of the people has remained high. “I think all my neighbors are good,” she sums up. “This has been a nice place and a lot of fun.”

Jason received his bachelor’s degree in education and went to work as a

FREE COMMUNITY STUFF

Activities

- Book Discussions @ The City Library. Programs include: Books To Die For, Sweet Reads, Mondays Are Murder. Call 524-8200 for info. Website: www.slclpl.org
- Tree Utah offers workshops, guidance for Utah-friendly plantings. Contact MetroGreening coordinator at 801-364-2122, Fax: 801-364-6889 e-mail: treeutah@treeutah.org; www.treeutah.org. I did say treeutah, didn’t I?
- Mystery Book Discussion Series, Thursdays 7 - 8 pm Main Library

Recycling Guide

- 2005 Salt Lake Valley Recycling Guide, Call and get your own guide. Hotline: 974-6902, www.slvwmf.net

- Check local grocery and elementary schools for newspaper bins.
- Glass drop-off location: Jordan Park, 1000 South 900 West
- Curbside Recycling: SL City 535-6999 - Collection questions: 972-4234
- Oil recycling: Call 1-800-458-0145
- Eyeglasses: Call local LensCrafters, Gift of Sight Program. 355-8945, Crossroads Plaza.
- Tires: Utah Tire Recyclers, 1398 N. Beck Street, 364-7900
- Car Batteries: Standard Batteries, 1506 So. Redwood Road, 973-4614
- Aluminum Buy-back Centers: Utah Metalworks, 805 Everett Ave (1450 N), 364-5679; Metro Group 401 W. 900 S., 328-2051