

Neighbor Spotlight by Rosann Greenway

One of the signs that Summer has faded to Autumn shows up on Girard Avenue every October. Along with the beautiful fall colors and blooming mums, our neighborhood is treated to an array of Halloween decorations and ornaments at Chuck Culver and Curtis Freeman's house! No tricks here, just Halloween adornments that have garnered for this 1908 two story bungalow the label of "Halloween House" among members of my family.

Chuck has been collecting Halloween decorations for 20 years. He loves the change of seasons, beautiful colors, and relaxed feeling of October. One day is not so relaxing, however, and that is the day that Chuck and Curtis assemble and place their Halloween decorations, which takes at least a full day, from morning until night! In fact, they have 26 lighted pumpkins on display throughout their home. Not to mention countless whimsical goblins or ghouls to delight the senses. Their house is definitely a favorite trick-or-treat destination for many young and old on Halloween night!

Chuck originally purchased his 1908 house in 1990 with his partner, Tim, who passed away in 2005. Tim had a big influence in the remodeling and restoration of the home. The house was condemned by the city at the time Chuck and Tim purchased it, but with much hard work and love, they created the welcoming place it is today. To say that Chuck and Curtis are welcoming is an understatement! They love their capitol hill neighborhood because of the neighbors and close knit community here. Often, they invite neighbors and friends to their home for gatherings, or they can be found at other neighbors' houses. Halloween and Christmas are great times to stop by and spend time with Curtis and Chuck. They will gladly open their home for a visit and share of their warmth and generosity.

The hospitality that Chuck and Curtis have for their neighbors extends to four legged friends also. Some in the neighborhood know Chuck for his work as a mentor at Able Dogs, a group devoted to helping people through the process of taking care of disabled pets. Chuck adopted his first disabled pet in 1992. Safari, a female Dalmation, was deaf. He learned that Safari would be euthanized unless adopted, so he opened his heart to this special needs pet. He learned that having a disabled pet can be overwhelming and he eventually sought support.



1: Vintage photo of Chuck Culver & Curtis Freeman's house. 2: Halloween inside.

He found the group Able Dogs (www.abledogs.com), and became a mentor himself. Over the years, Chuck has provided a home for many Dalmations, and other breeds of dogs, who suffered from paralysis, deafness, renal failure, and more. There have been times when sick or injured dogs have been left on his doorstep by people who knew they will receive proper and loving care. It is not uncommon to see Curtis and Chuck walking a dog or two in a K-9 Cart, which supports the hind quarters of paralyzed dogs, and allows them to walk on front legs. Through experience, Chuck became acutely aware of the plight of disabled pets and their owners. As a mentor, Chuck now shares his knowledge and experience and helps people from all over the world care for and learn about treatments for their disabled pets.

Since working with people from around the world with Able Dogs, Chuck has learned that many people wish they had the community found here on capitol hill. Both Chuck and Curtis came to Utah from California and love the home they have here. They are great neighbors and make our community a wonderful place!



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Thoughts from the Chair: November 2011

By Katherine Gardner

At last Halloween is over. I'm probably the Halloween Grinch. I love it for the little children, but not so enthusiastically for the teenagers and adults. But now, hooray for Thanksgiving! Do not let it get lost between Halloween and Christmas. In spite of some of the difficulties around us, we are a very fortunate city, state and country. We ought to all wave our flags and share our appreciation with each other.

Has anyone gone to the Leonardo that opened on October 8th? I'd love to have you share your opinions with me if you've had a chance to see it.

The city is working right now on a historic preservation plan. I have always been very grateful for the things that have been preserved in Salt Lake City and wish more could have been preserved. I wish we would have kept more than the churches that represented the Japanese and Greek cultures. I like living in a historic district. If you have any ideas that you'd like to share with the preservation committee, get them to Stan Penfold.

Remember that there will be no Community Council Meeting in December. We look forward to meeting with all of you again on January 18th at 6:30.

Happy Thanksgiving!

NOTICE: *(continued from page 1)* Proposed Zoning Amendment:

Text of Proposed Amendment to Salt Lake City Ordinance § 21A.24.010(T)(2)(a) [new provisions are underlined and italicized; alternatives are listed from more specific to more general—any of these alternatives would be acceptable to the applicant, so long as it were construed to include the applicant's proposed use]

21A.24.010(T)(2)(a) Uses: Nonresidential uses which may be allowed include:

Bed and breakfast establishments.

House museums.

Offices.

Reception centers.

[Alternative #1] Music studios and conservatories.

[Alternative #2] Establishments for the performing arts.

[Alternative #3] Arts venues.

The applicant, Salt Lake Choral Artists, a non-profit corporation that consists of a family of community choirs (including at present a concert choir, a chamber choir, a women's choir, a semi-professional touring choir, and two children's choirs) proposes to use the existing building on the subject property as a venue for the preparation and presentation of choral music, as well as for an office for administration of the organization's activities. These activities would include auditions, instruction, rehearsals, and occasional performances (i.e. recitals, although most performances would be off-site, primarily at the Libby Gardner Concert Hall on the University of Utah campus). In addition, Salt Lake Choral Artists may share the use of the building (on a lease, permit, shared ownership, or other basis) with other arts organizations (e.g., the Salt Lake Youth Chamber Society) for similar purposes, including instrumental as well as vocal music.

The subject property was originally used as a church (the LDS 24th Ward), and was later converted to office use for an architectural firm, which has since relocated; the building is presently vacant. The property is a landmark site in a residential district, and hence is subject to Section 21A.24.010(T) of the Zoning Code. That ordinance permits certain non-residential uses of landmark sites in a residential district (listed above), but does not permit use as a music or arts venue. However, such use is highly compatible with and enhances the character of the neighborhood, and complements an existing arts organization located only two blocks away (the Salt Lake Acting Company, at 168 W. 500 North).

It is not practical to convert the existing building to residential use, and the present owner has been unable to sell the property under the present zoning restrictions. Use of the property for the proposed purposes would allow the property to be occupied, which is certainly preferable to the property remaining vacant. Furthermore, the neighbors are uniformly in favor of the proposed use, as it would enhance the character of the neighborhood.

The proposed amendment to the ordinance would permit a use that is arguably at least as compatible, if not more compatible, with the intent of the ordinance than most of the uses presently permitted (offices, reception centers, and house museums). Section 21A.24.010(T)(1) recognizes that landmark sites "contribute to the welfare, property and education of the people of Salt Lake City because of their historic, architectural or cultural significance." (emphasis added) The building (built in 1907) has architectural significance that would be preserved, and the proposed use would contribute to the goals of education and cultural significance. Salt Lake Choral Artists is a valuable contributor to the arts community and the cultural life of Salt Lake City. Its presence in the subject property would benefit not only the neighborhood, but the entire city.

Everyone is Invited:

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Meeting

State Capitol Senate Building Copper Room
November 16, 2011 (Next Meeting: Jan. 18th)

6:00 p.m. Mobile Watch Meeting

6:30 p.m. Neighborhood Council Meeting:

- Welcome by Chair
- Mobile Watch Report, Georg Stutzenberger
- Police Report, Detective Tony Brereton, SLPD
- Fireman's Report
- Elected Officials' Reports
- Mayor's Office Report, Joyce Valdez
- CHNC Business
 - 2012 Items
 - Bill Rotherford - Salt Lake Forester
- Landlord/tenant questions follow-up
- Utah Senior Village, Richard Starley
- UDOT property report
- Public Forum
- Adjourn

Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council Members:

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Vice-Chair: Sam Peterson

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PREVIOUS CAPITOL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING REVIEW :

OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS: Rep. Chavez Houck reported on the new redistricting. Her legislative district remains the same, but the state senate district has been changed. Part of our Capitol Hill neighborhood has been included with Davis County, which is a bad allocation. Further, we are now included in the Second Congressional District with St. George (Washington County) and part of western Utah.

Stan Penfold from the City Council reported that the City will do some redistricting including his District # 3. A big discussion followed on the proposed Idling ordinance, which has now passed. Stan reported that the purpose of the Idling ordinance was to educate and not to enforce (punish), but all of this did not make much sense since there are better and less expensive ways to educate. We will see?

MAYOR'S OFFICE: Art Raymond represented the Mayor and discussed the pilot program of 50 pay stations, which have been installed to pay for downtown parking. The pilot program for pay stations will cost an estimated \$300,000 and if pay stations were installed throughout the City the estimated cost would be 4.5 million dollars. The cost of meter parking will increase next year. We will still have free parking during the holidays. Our brown recycle cans for leaves, etc. can be used year round, but during winter the pickup will be every two weeks beginning in January.

SENIORS: Richard Starley introduced the Utah Senior Village program for the Avenues. This is the first "Village" for Utah, which allows Seniors a voluntary neighborhood association while continuing to live at home.

POLICE REPORT: Some drug distribution problems on North Center St. have been addressed by the police. The Rail "Club" at about 235 North 500 West, which was a past problem, is now operating again.

NOMINATIONS: The following nominations were made at the October meeting. Katherine Gardner, Chairperson; two Vice Chairmen: Dean Larsen and Georg Stutzenberger; Historian, Todd Greenway; Secretary, Brandon Bennett; Neighbor Trustees: Ensign Peak, Ernst Friedrich; Desoto St. Geoffrey Fitzwilliams and West Capitol, Richard Starley.

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The Bulletin

NOTICE:
**Proposed use of a
Capitol Hill
Neighborhood
structure.**

An acclaimed Salt Lake City based music organization, the Salt Lake Choral Artists, would like to take over the building that formerly housed the Cooper Roberts Architectural firm. This former LDS church building is located at the north end of 200 West where Wall Street intersects 200 W. The building was remodeled a number of years ago by the architectural firm, which has since relocated. The building has been vacant and for sale for several years.

For this arts organization to accomplish this, a zoning change will be required. More information on the Salt Lake Choral Artists can be found on their website: <http://www.saltlakechoralartists.org/> Representatives of the organization will be at the next community council meeting to discuss their application with interested community members. Reprinted here is an excerpt from the application for the change.

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