



## Welcome!

### December 2009 Edition

*Denver's Old House Society is a new nonprofit dedicated to educating owners of old (50+ years) houses and helping them protect their neighborhoods.*

#### **Dear Old-House Lover,**

There's no place like home for the holidays! We wish you and yours a most happy season and good new year.

Many old house lovers in Denver City Council District 1 in northwest Denver are counting off the days until 2009 ends because their neighborhoods will not experience the destruction of homes being torn down and multiplexes built or the land sporting large holes full of debris as many other areas in this part of the city. [Moratorium](#) All three areas had approached their councilman, requesting an administrative down zone from R1 to R2 early in 2009. Members of Denver's Old House Society's Advocacy Committee, who helped these neighborhoods, were thanked for their guidance.

Your continued financial support for our efforts to educate owners of Denver's old houses and help them protect Denver's beloved old neighborhoods will assure that our homes and

Help Us  
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**Foundin  
g Board  
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Jude  
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Elizabeth  
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Haglund

Gary  
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Suzanne  
Minear

Kevin  
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Carolyn  
VanSciver

Elizabeth  
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Lucy Cook  
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Copeland  
Cathy  
Crabtree  
Matt

neighborhoods of so many holiday memories will still be there in 2010 and beyond. Compared to other great cities, Denver has few old houses and neighborhoods. We need to safeguard with education and advocacy efforts those that we do have. Please donate today.

Remember, look for us on Facebook, and become a Fan of the Denver's Old House Society page.

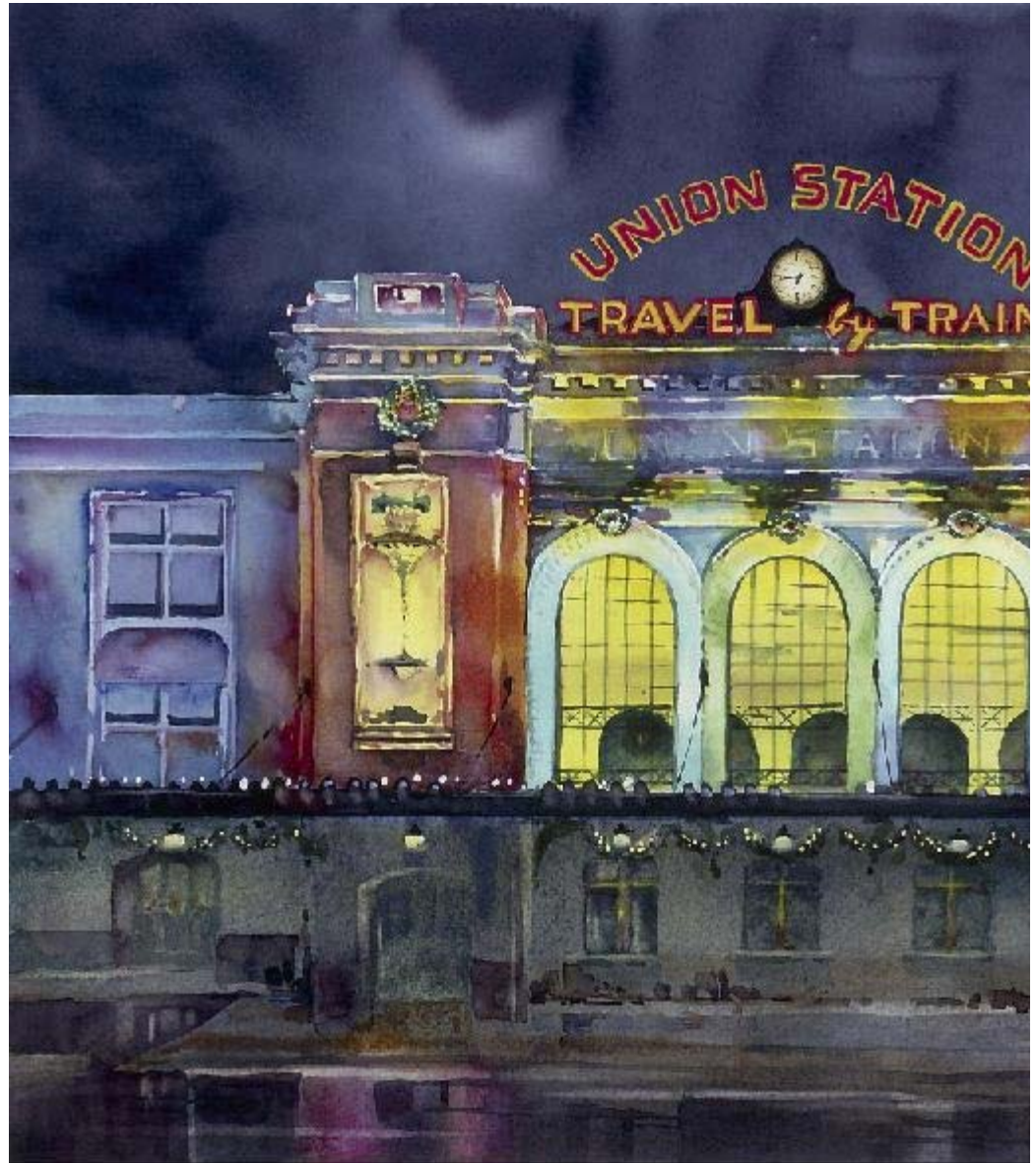
Don't forget our "Favorite Old-House Award." Nominate your's today. You and the homeowners could be honored at our annual awards dinner, January 21. [Favorite Old House](#) The deadline for nominations is December 31.

*"The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
In hopes that St Nicholas soon would be there" -- Clement Clarke Moore*

Childhood memories of Christmas stockings hung in anticipation of Santa's visit often swirl in our heads this time of year.

The fireplace and mantel were part and parcel of the architectural design of the home. Patricia Poore briefly summarized fireplaces and architectural house styles in her story, "Mantelscapes" in the December 2008 issue of "Old-House Interiors"

Cumings  
Chris and  
Ellen  
Daehnick  
Seann &  
Sharon Day  
Ray and Pat  
Defa Rick  
Dula  
Lotte Dula  
Erin Egglund  
Pamela  
Fischer  
JoVonne  
Fitzgerald  
Lisa Kelley  
Fouts  
Stephen  
Evanoff  
Martha  
Foxhaven  
Donna  
Mullen Good  
Garry  
Gordon  
Michael &  
Patricia  
Grace  
Gertie Grant  
Paula Green  
Lynn  
Gregory  
Susan V.  
Gregory  
Mona  
Goodwin  
Randy Hale  
Mary  
Hamilton  
Harkness  
Heights  
Neighborhood  
Assn.  
Alanna  
Herrera  
Joan Holmes  
Susan & Bob  
Homiak  
Barbara &  
Michael  
Homs  
Carla Huston  
Rob &  
Jennifer Jess  
Michael  
Johns  
MeriLou  
Johnson  
Steve Kite  
Mark &  
Leigh LaFon  
Julie Lee  
Jan & Joe



*"Holiday Lights," Watercolor by Randy Hall on a Holiday Card*

## **Tickets for "A Tuna Christmas" and Holiday Cards Are Still Available**

Denver's Old House Society hosts Saturday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m. a special showing of "A Tuna Christmas" at the Denver Victorian Playhouse, 4201 Hooker Street.

Leone  
Chris Lesser  
Sherry  
Liberato  
Kevin  
Loewen  
Beverly  
Longe  
Bonnie  
McCartney  
Alan Martin  
M.  
Masterson  
David Matthews  
Dan Milne  
Richard &  
Gail Montoya  
Molly  
Parrish  
Jody Phillips  
Harry &  
Shirley  
Plummer  
Stan & Leslie  
Pollard  
Lilia Ponce  
Marilyn  
Quinn  
Mary Rae  
Catherine  
Rands  
Joyce  
Reitman  
Michael  
Ritchie  
Mike  
Shannon  
Brian Shaw  
Janet Shaw  
Barbara  
Sheldon  
Tom &  
Jackie Short  
Tom  
& Laurie  
Simmons  
Nancy  
Stewart  
Michelle  
Sturm  
Victoria  
Thomas  
Terry  
Tomsick  
Jessie  
Tramutolo  
Millicent  
Turner  
Victoria Vans  
Ann  
Valentine  
Judy & Paul

"A Tuna Christmas" actors Austin Terrell and Seth Miasel and producer Wade P. Wood specialize in having audiences roll out of their seats with laughter. Held in the historic Denver Victorian Playhouse Theater, [Theater](#), originally built in the basement of a 1911 northwest Denver home, the play is bound to relieve holiday stress with uninhibited humor. Savory refreshments will be served during intermission. After the show, the audience can tour this unique home and go back stage to visit with the actors. The ticket price is \$30 and can be purchased by calling 303-916-4359 or going on line at [tickets](#)

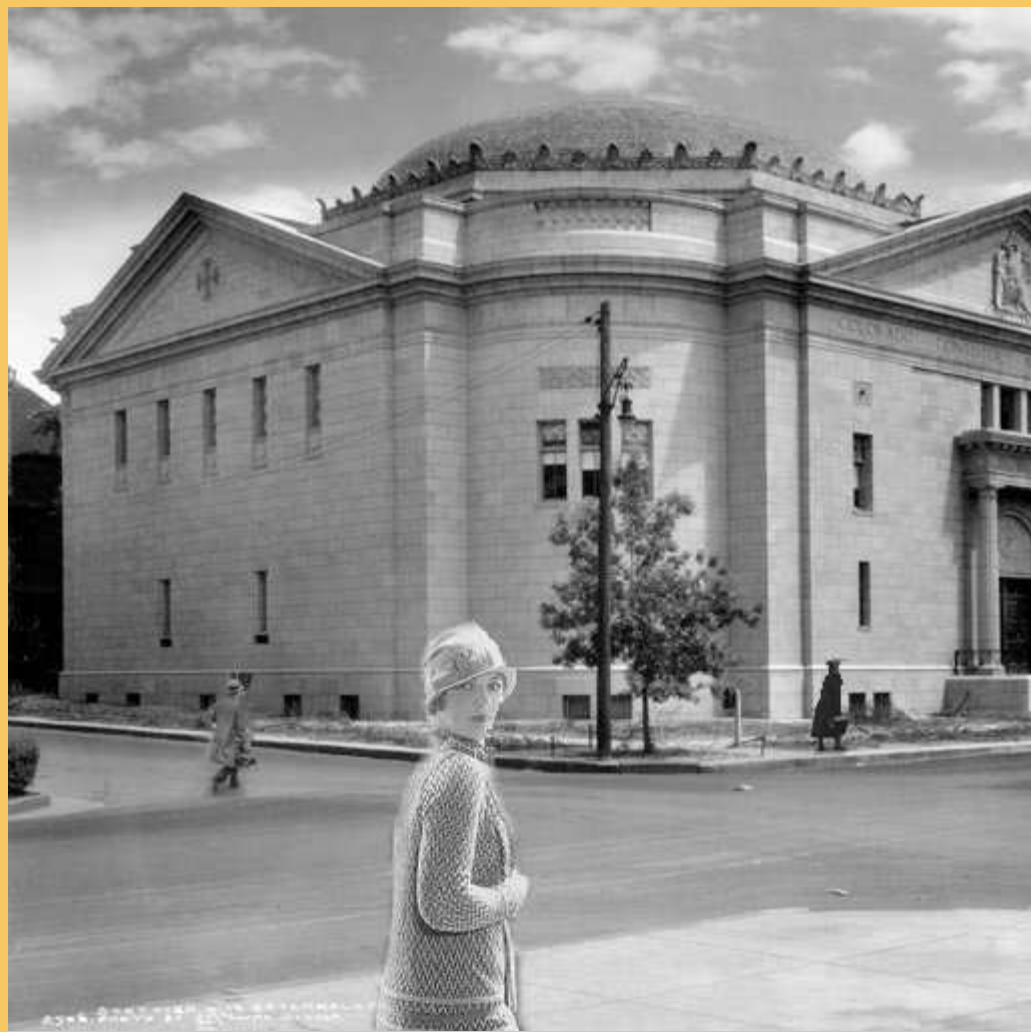
Denverite [Randy Hale's](#) paintings can be found in both private and corporate collections worldwide. For Denver's Old House Society, he is offering a collection of holiday greeting cards of three of his watercolor paintings of Civic Center, Union Station and the Daniels Fisher Tower. The box of nine contains three cards of each painting and sells for \$16. Hale lives and works in a 124 year old Denver Queen Ann Victorian. As a watercolorist, he sets out to capture the emotional connection to our past. To order cards, go to [order cards](#). You may recall that Randy donated one of his wonderful paintings for a drawing at our spring Old House Fair.

How jolting it is to go into an old home and see a fireplace or jutting wood-burning stove that is not compatible with the architectural style of the home. If you are shopping for a fireplace insert, keep architectural style in mind and shop at stores whose personnel know what is appropriate for different architectural styles. If a salesperson says, "Oh, this will work in any old house," leave the store immediately.

## **Awards Reception, Dinner, Silent Auction, Building Tour - January 21**

Vorndran  
Claire Walter  
Doug Walter  
Mark  
Wessley  
Bill West  
Will White  
Barbara  
Wright  
Barbara Yost  
Amy  
Zimmer

Join Our Mail



Artist rendition of the Consistory about 50 years ago

Thursday, January 21, we will present these awards to more deserving people along with the owner and nominee of the house selected for "the Favorite Old House Award" at the historic Consistory, 1370 Grant Street. On our Web site, "Early-bird" tickets are on sale now for \$60 until December 31. [Order Tickets](#)

**Award recipients this year include:**

**Nancy L. Widmann** - "Grand Old-House Lover Award" - Researched numerous areas of Denver for historic designation consideration and wrote many books about Denver neighborhoods

**William West** - "Exceptional Old-House Educator Award" - Investigated

areas of Curtis Park, one of Denver's oldest neighborhoods, and informed numerous individuals, groups and organizations about its historic significance

**Chris Murata and Everett Shigeta** - "Astonishing Neighborhood Protector Award" - Dedicated themselves to uphold the integrity of historic districts and houses and contributed their professional expertise when neighborhoods and homes were under consideration for historic designation by the city of Denver

In addition to these awards, Denver's Old House Society will also present honor the owner of the home that was voted "Favorite Old House" by a Web site ballot. The nominee will also be acknowledged. Homes were nominated that have been lovingly maintained over the years, or whose owners reversed years of neglect and restored them to wonderful neighborhood assets.

Sponsors for the event so far include [Nostalgic Homes](#) and [jcHutch.com](#)  
Call 303-916-4359 for sponsorship opportunities or silent auction donations.

To a sold-out crowd, last January we honored five people who truly made a difference for Denver's old houses and neighborhoods: Shirley Schley, Jude Aiello, Ray Defa and Steve Kite were given the "Astonishing Neighborhood Protector Award" for spearheading the "Right Zone Change" in Northwest Denver; Carolyn Van Sciver received the "Exceptional Old-House Educator Award" for organizing and managing the Congress Park Neighbors Historic Speakers Series; and Mary Rae was honored with the "Grand Old-House Lover Award" because she began Denver's love affair with old houses and prevented the wrecking ball from destroying many of them.

Architectural salvage stores are great sources for replacement fireplaces and mantels. If the brick or tile has been painted or stuccoed (God-forbid), it can be removed with loving and knowledgeable care. As anyone knows who has ever watched the television show, "If Walls Could Talk," you can remove the wallboard and reveal the beautiful old fireplace hidden behind.

**Statement of Concern Sent to Mayor and Others**



*A Victorian home in one of Denver's Historic Districts*  
*J. Wheeler*

*Photo by Elizabeth*

A letter stating the Society's concern for the proposed new zoning code and Denver's Historic Districts was sent to Mayor Hickenlooper, members of Denver's City Council, some staff members of Denver's Community Planning and Development department, and "The Denver Post."

The proposed changes are not congruent with the original intent of the new zoning code, which is yet to be implemented. [Zoning](#)

Denver's Old House Society strives to leave a legacy of charming Denver neighborhoods of well-preserved old houses, sensitively maintained, jewels of the "Queen City of the Plains."

Sincerely,

*Denver's Old House Society*

Email Marketing by



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