



- 
- **Stockade Calendar** •
- **"Missing Links"** •
- Schenectady Civic •
- Players Mar. 11, 12, 13 •
- & 16-20 Evenings, •
- 8 PM., Sun. Matinees, •
- 2:30 PM. 12 S.Church. •
- Tickets, \$12. 382-2081. •
- (see p. 8) •
- **"The Half Moon"** •
- Captain Chip Reynolds, •
- Mar. 12, 1:30 PM •
- Historical Society •
- 32 Wash. Ave. •
- **YWCA's** •
- **2005 Women of** •
- **Achievement Awards** •
- Tues., March 15 •
- 5:30 PM, Glen Sanders •
- Mansion, \$75 •
- Call 374-3394, ext. 124 •
- by March 11. •
- **Moon and River Cafe** •
- 115 S. Ferry Street •
- 382-1938 for events •
- **Film Series 2005** •
- **Schenectady County** •
- **Community College** •
- 78 Wash. Ave. All films •
- free, Call 381-1250, or •
- www.sunysccc.edu for •
- full schedule •
- **April** •
- **Spy Deadline** •
- **March 15** •
- 

## *Steinmetz:*

# *"The Wizard of Schenectady"*

Do you recognize the 1840's house pictured below? It's located at 53 Washington Avenue, one of many significant properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, "Stockade Historic District." How many of you have stopped to read the plaque?



Photo by Louise Basa

Steinmetz's 1st Schenectady home  
53 Washington Avenue

In 1894, Charles Proteus Steinmetz, rented an apartment in this house soon after starting to work in Schenectady at the General Electric Company. Even at 29, he was known for his accomplishments in mathematics and grew into renowned in the new field of electrical engineering and later teaching at Union College.

Shortly after moving in, he welcomed two additional young "bachelors" to share the "pad." The house was within walking or bicycling distance to the GE facility - one could safely cross State Street then since it dead-ended at Washington Avenue. Proteus and Ernst J. Berg, his friend and colleague over the next 30 years, added Ernst's brother, Eskil, also from Sweden, to make up the threesome who shared expenses, common recreational interests and a "Bohemian" lifestyle. The relatively new immigrant (Steinmetz arrived at Ellis Island in 1889) simply called the household members "family."

While working so hard at creating electrical apparatus, Steinmetz maintained a rich and active social life full of friends, cards, and practical jokes. Ernst J. Berg wrote in 1934 that "it seems extraordinary that so much real work was done because we played so much." During those first years in Schenectady, Steinmetz and his friends got into "all kinds" of mischief, according to Berg. "Sometimes we would be busy at night shifting signs so that in the morning the dispenser of beer would find a dry goods sign over his door and vice versa." (Quoted from Union College Magazine, Fall 1998: Volume 91, Number 2). Later, the fun times (and work) shifted to "Camp Mohawk" in the Town of Glenville. SCCC Community Archaeology Program students are currently researching this Steinmetz hideaway and compiling data on its physical appearance and location. If anyone in the

*(continued on page 2)*

### Holy Week & Easter

Historic St. George's Church, 30 N. Ferry St.

**March 20, Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**

8:30 AM Morning Prayer 8:45 Sunday School

9 AM Liturgy of the Palms, Solemn High Mass

St. Nicholas Children's Choir

**March 24, Maundy Thursday, 7:30 PM Mass, St. Cecilia Choir**

6:30 PM Peace Vigil

**March 25, Good Friday, 12:15 PM, Liturgy & Mass of the**

Pre-Sanctified

**March 26, Holy Saturday, 9 AM Pro-Anaphora**

(Chapel of the Holy Family) 10 AM Confessions

**March 26, Easter Eve, 7 PM, The Great Vigil & The First Mass of**

Easter - St. Sebastian's Quartet,

Festive Reception Following in the Great Hall

**March 27, The Sunday of the Resurrection - Easter Day**

8:30 AM Morning Prayer, 8:45 Sunday School

9:00 AM Solemn High Mass of Resurrection, St. Cecilia Choir

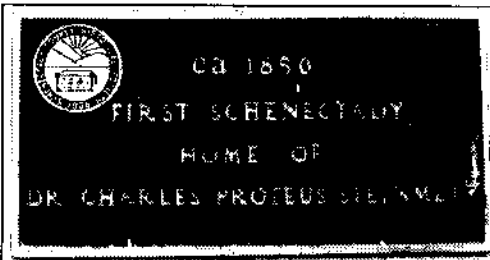
### Schenectady County Community College Events

**Call 381-1231 for tickets and details**

- **Bill Nye**, the Science Guy, Thursday, March 10, 7 PM
- **Rufus Reid**, Bass, Artist-in-Residence, Monday, March 18, recitals, lectures
- **SCCC Chamber Music Series Concert III** featuring John Kamitsuka, piano, Wednesday, March 30, 7:30 PM
- **Dr. Laurence Kaminsky**, New York State Department of Health, discusses Pharmacogenics, Thursday, March 31, 7 PM

(Steinmetz continued from page 1)

Photo by Louise Basa



Plaque at 53 Washington Avenue

21st to April 29th 2005, "Giants of Industry: Edison's Powerful Legacy."

Today, Steinmetz's legend continues as large as his legacy.

- Louise Basa

### **SCCC Archaeology Courses**

**Archaeology Field Work Program** Wednesdays, 3/30/05 to 5/18/05 6-8:30 PM, \$150 CFN219-51; 10421. Apply basic surface mapping & survey techniques, excavating, and recording at the Mabee Farm Historic Site.

#### **Archaeology Lab Practices and Site Study**

Thursdays, 3/31/05 to 5/19/05 6-9 PM, \$150 CFN2118-51; 10494. Analyze artifacts & materials from selected archaeological sites & documents from excavations in the Schenectady Stockade & other 18th & 19th century sites. Call 381-1315.

Courses require pre-requisites or instructor permission.

## *Easter Cantata*

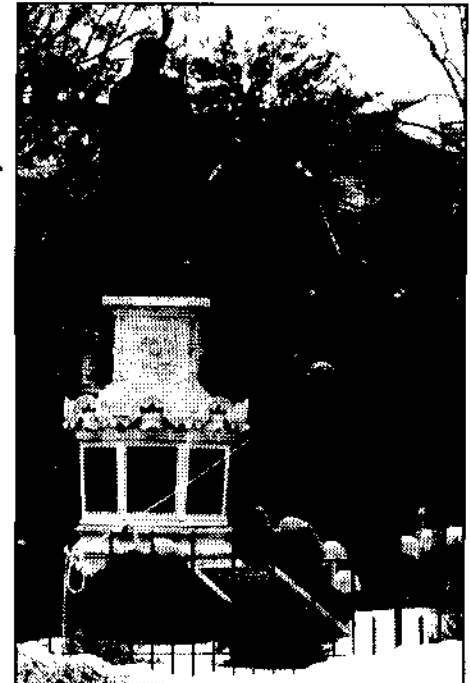
**March 20th • 6:00 PM**

# **BELIEVE**

**at First Presbyterian Church  
209 Union Street - Schenectady**

You are cordially invited to experience a fresh approach to the timeless Easter story, BELIEVE, which portrays the story of Christ's death and resurrection as witnessed through the eyes of Pilate, Caiaphas, Thomas, John and Mary, the mother of Jesus. Come experience their emotions as Jesus effected them ... the doubt that Thomas had to overcome ... the heart of a mother watching the last week of her son's life ... the political tensions placed upon Pilate ... the control Caiaphas desired to maintain ... imagine what John felt at the empty tomb. Directed by Judi Merriam and accompanied by David Cash, this presentation includes a 50voice choir, soloists, dramatic characters and more. There is no cost for this presentation.

Photo by Mabel Leon



The mysterious pink flamingos visit Lawrence again on Valentine's Day

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# Neighborhood News

Stockade website: [www.historicstockade.com](http://www.historicstockade.com).

Deb Douglas, Recording Secretary

## Stockade Association Board Meeting Minutes February 1, 2005

Present: Joe Fava, Debbi Douglas, Diane DeMeo, Lyn Gordon, Dale Miller, Peter Rumora, Bob Preville, Connie Colangelo, Eli Taub, Brad Fisher and Fred Kindl. Sylvie Briber, Kim Mabee, Jennifer Wells, Stan Hickok, Ellen Desmond and Steve Kowalski were present as guests.

Joe called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Connie made a motion to approve the minutes of the January board meeting. Fred seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report/Budget

Lyn presented the treasurer's report, and after discussion, Eli made a motion to accept the report. Connie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### Current Business

#### 501 C3 Status

Stan Hickok has been generously volunteering his time to work on the Association's tax exempt status. He briefed the board in detail on the background work he has done, from our initial application for the 501 C3 status, probable reasons for its suspension and the steps that are required to reinstate the status. Eli made a motion that Stan be given authority to, together with Lyn, file the forms necessary to reinstate our 501 C3 status. Connie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The board again thanked Stan for generously volunteering his time and knowledge to get the Association back on track.

#### Sidewalk and Painting Incentive Program

Brad reported that the finance committee met to review the fiscal viability of continuing the program. With strong support from the membership to keep the program, Brad made a motion to restrict combined sidewalk and painting incentives to \$2,000 maximum for the 2005-2006 budget, the expenditures to be offset by increased dues income raised in fundraising categories described (above base membership fees), with any surplus being directed 50% to reserve, and 50% to neighborhood improvement. Eli seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. In discussion, Eli mentioned that we have not yet exceeded the \$2,000 in the history of the program. Brad also discussed various ideas to expand the membership revenue to support the program, including increased membership fees, different membership classifications and sponsorship opportunities. The incentives will be awarded

on a first-come, first-serve basis, and the program will be revisited annually to determine its fiscal viability for the following year.

### Garden Group

Steve Kowalski and Ellen Desmond were invited to the meeting to discuss incorporating the garden group back into the Association. They had a long list of questions to pose to the board, and a very good discussion ensued. Steve and Ellen will report back to their group, and further progress will be reported.

### Website

Jennifer Wells was invited to the meeting to discuss our website, its use and benefits. Jennifer mentioned that she is always looking for ideas, articles, photos, event updates and links to other sites. Bob Preville will start posting *The Spy* each month, and Jennifer will print out pages of the website for the board to review and brainstorm for ideas. The board thanked Jennifer for all of her efforts to compose and maintain the website that showcases our neighborhood.

### Master Plan

Dale reported that there will be a master plan brainstorming session at the Historical Society on March 2nd. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

### By-Laws

Eli presented the board with draft changes to the by-laws. A discussion of some of the proposed changes took place, and the Board will review the final draft in March. An informational presentation/question/answer exchange for the Association will take place at the General Membership meeting in March.

There being no further business to discuss, Brad made a motion to adjourn. Deb seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The marathon concluded at 10:05.

## Olde Mohawk



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and  
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# Spy Patroons

The businesses on pages 8, 10 & 11 have paid for advertising for the entire year. We thank them for their commitment to *The Spy* and to our community. Please support them by your patronage.

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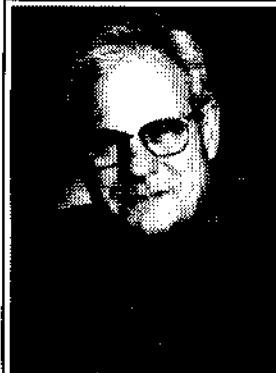
Email: fpcsrmin@nycap.rr.com

Website: www.1stpreschurch.org

### Wednesday Evening

6:00 Family Dinner (Sept.-May)  
7:00 Prayer Meeting  
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# Stockade Association General Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2005 7:00 Social 7:30 PM Meeting  
Schenectady County Historical Society 32 Washington Ave. (entrance in back)

All Stockade neighbors are invited!

## • Presentation and Discussion of the Proposed Revised Bylaws

Voting on the revised bylaws will take place at the Annual Meeting on May 20, 2005.  
If you would like a copy in advance of the meeting, please email taub@capital.net

## • Election of a Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers and directors for election at the Annual Meeting

\* \* \* \* \*

## Stockade Association Notes

- The board is in the process of collecting **designs for a new logo** for the Stockade. We would like to add it to new historic plaques, street signs, welcome signs, advertisements, banners, and anything else that is an official Stockade publication. What should we use that will make the Stockade logo instantly recognizable? Should the logo incorporate Lawrence, the old fort, a stockade fence, or one of our many unique buildings? We welcome all designs, but they must be simple enough to be used on historic plaques - look at the Historical Society's logo on the existing plaques. The new logo must also work in raised metal outlines on a 2 inch diameter circle. The deadline for entry is March 1st. Please submit your final version with your name and contact info to Dale Miller, 217 Green St. The logo committee will meet after that to discuss the submissions and their merits. All submissions become the property of the Stockade Association. To volunteer for the logo committee, call Dale at 381-6189.
- Anyone interested in being considered for a **seat on the Stockade Association Board**, please call Lyn Gordon, 370-4324, with your name, summary of why you are interested in serving and your specific interests. Terms are for two years. Election takes place at the May meeting.

**Please support the Association and become a member by returning the coupon below. Membership runs from October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005. \$15 per person, \$20 per household.**

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Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_

Business \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
**"The Stockade Association"**  
and send to:  
Stockade Association Treasurer  
10 North Church Street  
Schenectady, NY 12305

## CALL FOR ALL STOCKADE ASSOCIATION RECORDS

The Schenectady County Historical Society has graciously given us space to store all existing records of our association. If you have, or know of any past records stored in attics or basements, we are asking that they be returned to the association so that they may be catalogued and filed in one place. You may call Lyn Gordon at 370-4324 to have them picked up at your convenience, or you may deliver them to Lyn at 10 North Church St. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

## WALKABOUT 2005 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Plans for our 2005 Walkabout are in full swing with committee chairman hard at work to bring about another successful event for our neighborhood. As always we are looking for volunteers to make the work less intensive for those who give of their talents year after year. If you would like to be in on the planning stage of this exciting event please call Lyn Gordon at 370-4324. If day of volunteering better fits your schedule please call Aaron Couture at 377-1163. Please give freely of your time and talents as this is the primary fund raiser for your organization.

In spite of heavy downpours on the day of the 2004 Walkabout, we realized a healthy profit of \$3,467.

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CIVIC PLAYERS**  
2004-2005 Season

**Missing Link**  
March 11-13, 16-20

**Moon Over Buffalo**  
May 6-8, 11-15

All Tickets \$12  
382-2081

## Birds of the Stockade

Many birds communicate through simple sounds including some they make mechanically without using their voice. Many species depend on non-vocal sounds to communicate. Woodpeckers drum against hollow parts of trees to advertise their territoriality and to attract mates. If hollow trees are not available, a variety of other objects will suffice, including air vents, metal chimneys, and other parts of buildings. I've watched a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker drum on a metal ladder. When Sapsuckers drum it sounds almost like morse code.

- James L. Taft, AKA Captain Eagle Eyes

## Four New Stockade Businesses

### Corner of Ferry and Liberty Streets

Over the past year, our own Liberty & Ferry Street corner has evolved into a most unusual and creative street corner. Four new businesses have blossomed there. **Village Books & Art** sells eclectic and interesting books, antiques, curios, jewelry and more. It is run jointly by Richard Genest and Edith Alois. Richard sells the books and Edith the collectables. The shop is surprisingly beautiful largely because of Edith's elegance and good taste. She is a Schenectady native and has been an art dealer for years. Stop in and be surprised!

**Holistic Alternatives** offers healing work by appointment with owner Rev. Maggie McCarey as well as gifts and note cards. Maggie also runs the adjacent **Rosie Irene's Tea Room** where you can sit in the sun in the plant filled solarium and enjoy teas and delicious lavender cookies. Maggie will be celebrating her 2nd anniversary in business here on Sunday, March 20 at 2 PM with concerts by The Dancing Unicorn, a Stockade based Irish band, and Steve Scarlata, Stockade singer songwriter. High Tea will be served. The fourth new business on this corner is the **Moon and River Cafe** offering vegetarian fare and live music nightly. -Richard Genest

## Schenectady Poetry Horde

### 1st Sunday of the Month

The Schenectady Poetry Horde monthly open mic at the **Moon and River Cafe** in the Stockade of Schenectady at 115 South Ferry Street has been changed to the 1st Sunday of each month at 6 PM.

Contact JJ Johnson for details at [SchenectadyPoetryHorde@yahoo.com](mailto:SchenectadyPoetryHorde@yahoo.com) or visit our site at <http://geocities.com/SchenectadyPoetryHorde>.

You can join the message board for updates at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SchenectadyPoetryHorde/>

## Planning to Make Outside Repairs?

### You may need to file an Application with The Schenectady Historic Commission

Applications, full deadline and meeting schedule, and further information are available from Christine Slovak or Tony Tozzi in the Department of Development, Room 14, 105 Jay Street, City Hall, Schenectady, 12305, 382-5147 or 382-5054. Fees for Historic Commission applications are \$10 for residential applications and \$20 for commercial applications. Following is the schedule for application deadlines and 7:00 PM review meeting dates for Spring 2005:

<u>Application deadline</u>	<u>Review meeting</u>
April 4	April 18
May 2	May 16

**Stockade Association**  
**Officers & Directors**  
**2004-2005**

**President**

Joseph Fava 5/05  
 27 Ferry Street  
 374-6190

**Vice President**

Eli Taub 5/06  
 105 N. Ferry Street  
 393-0719

**Treasurer**

Lyn Gordon 5/05  
 10 N. Church Street  
 370-4324

**Recording Sec.**

Deb Douglas 5/06  
 1 Cucumber Alley  
 374-3099

**Corres. Secretary**

Brad Fisher 5/05  
 27 Front Street  
 393-4605

**Directors**

Connie Colangelo 5/05  
 111 N. Ferry Street  
 374-7355

Peter Rumora 5/05  
 31 Front Street  
 374-4883

Diane DeMeo 5/05  
 232 Union Street  
 372-0642

Dale Miller  
 217 Green Street  
 381-6189

Bob Preville 5/06  
 2 Union St.  
 441-9946

Fred Kindl 5/05  
 14 N. Church St.  
 346-7577

*- Tidings -*

• Congratulations to Karen Pandell. Her book, "Where's Stretch?" was recently chosen as one of the 50 best children's books of the year by the magazine, "Child."

• Condolences to the family of JoAnn McDonald, Washington Ave., on her recent passing. She fought a brave battle with cancer.

*If you know of any items for "Tidings" (neighborhood arrivals, departures, births, deaths, anniversaries) please call The Spy Editor, Sylvie Briber, 377-0469.*

**Snow Emergency Info**

Be advised that the city, especially during snow emergencies, will be ticketing and towing cars parked illegally. Please be careful that where you park at any time is within a legal space. Odd/even parking during snow emergencies replaces/supersedes normal one-side-only parking that is usually on most Stockade Streets. To receive timely info, sign up for the Stockade email group. Just send a blank email to: [HistoricStockadesubscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:HistoricStockadesubscribe@yahoo.com)  
 For email questions, call Dale Miller, 381-6189.

**Important Numbers**

**Emergency 911**  
**Sch'dy Police 382-5200**  
**Trash Collection, Waste Collection Schedule & Recycling 382-5144**  
**Snow Parking info. 382-5279**

**March Waste Collection Dates**

**Monday, March 7      Monday, March 14**  
**Monday, March 21    Monday, March 28**

Waste Collection starts at 6:15 AM. Please put waste on the curb **after 2 PM** the day before.

**Seth Rozin's**  
**"Missing Links"**

**March 11, 12, 13 & 16-20**

"Missing Links" is the March show of the Schenectady Civic Players at 12 South Church Street. This Capital Area premiere is a searing comedy/drama that points up the conflict of science and spirit. The blinding light of hope is shed on a faithless couple when a personal tragedy forces them to reconnect with the beliefs they had long since abandoned. Exploring the politics of religion, and the frustration of the inexplicable, this intriguing work was nominated for Best Play 2001 by the Philadelphia Theater Alliance. Evenings, 8:00 PM, Sunday matinees, 2:30 PM. Tickets, \$12. 382-2081.

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 23 Washington Avenue

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 Gerald Plante  
 Catherine de Salle  
 Beverly Elander

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Bob Briber

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 6 Front Street

**Delivery**

Josh Mlodzianowski  
 382-7654

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**Deadline** for entries is the **15th** of the previous month.

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**Capital Printing**

Articles that appear in *The Stockade Spy* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Stockade Association Board of Directors.