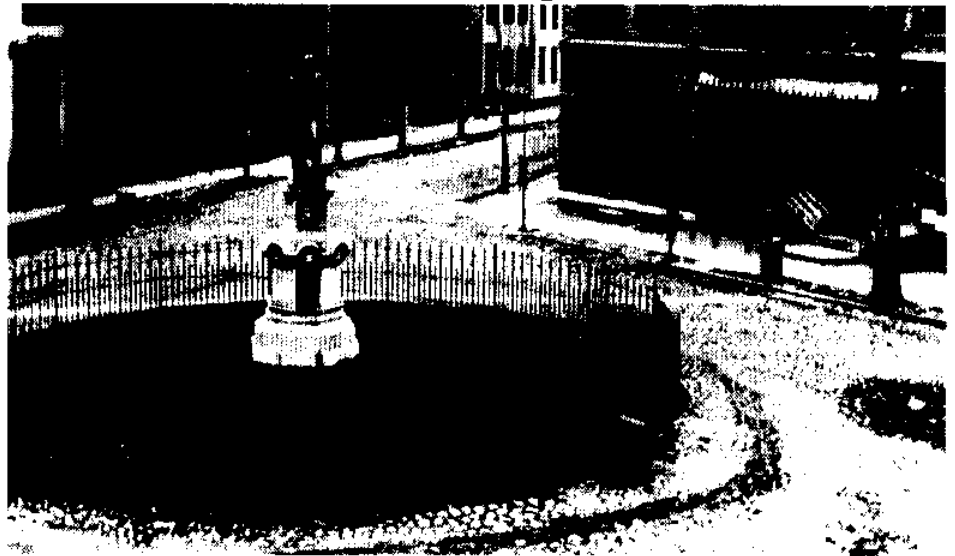


THE STOCKADE ★ SPY



January 2006 Published by The Stockade Association www.historicstockade.com Vol. 47 No. 5

Lawrence Through the Years



By 1890 it was moved to the center of the "island" and ringed with a metal fence.

Erected in 1887, the Indian was originally just outside a small green plot. He had a horse watering trough beside him and a drinking fountain at the base. Water was to pour from the lions on his pedestal and from the log on which his foot rests. He was surrounded by cobblestones.

On March 26, 1898 a tablet was added to the pedestal by the Common Council on the Centennial anniversary of the inauguration of the City.



Photos courtesy of the Schenectady County Historical Society

Stockade Dates

• **Stockade Association**
 • **General Meeting**
 • **Thurs., January 12**
 • **7:30 PM**
 • **32 Washington Ave.**
 • **Frank Gilmore on**
 • **the East Front St.**
 • **Area Development**

• **Master Plan Meeting**
 • **with**
 • **River Street Planning**
 • **Jan. 24 6:30- 8:30PM**
 • **Reformed Church**
 • **All Stockaders**
 • **encouraged to attend**
 • **see page 3**

• **Brunch**
 • **Sunday, Feb. 12**
 • **11 AM - 1:00 PM**
 • **Schenectady**
 • **Civic Playhouse**
 • **All Stockade**
 • **Neighbors Invited**
 • **Free! See page 11**

Around and About the Stockade

Schenectady Civic Players presents "Enchanted April"

This new romantic comedy by Matthew Barber, follows four English women as they vacation at an Italian villa and, in the process, rediscover laughter, romance, and themselves. **Jan. 27, 28, 29 and Feb. 1-5.** Evening curtain is 8 PM, matinees 2:30 PM. Schenectady Civic Playhouse, 12 South Church Street. Tickets are \$12. Call 382-2081.

Moon and River Cafe, 115 S. Ferry St., 382-1938
4-11 pm Vegetarian Fare and Dessert Paradise!
For a complete Sept. Schedule, please call or drop by.

Mon. Jan. 2 7 PM Story Circle - can listen or tell.
Tues. Jan. 3 8 PM String Dusters - Sch'dy blugrass/wit
Wed. Jan. 4 7 PM "Envisioning A Better World"
discussion led by Lou Ismay
Fri. Jan. 6 7 PM Reception - our Jan. Artist, Jo Ella Cassi
Sat. Jan. 7 6 PM Poetry Open Mic
Wed. Jan. 11 7:30 Ukulele Club - all welcome
Fri. Jan. 13 8 PM Canvaugh & Kavanaugh - folk duo
Sat. Jan. 14 1 PM Writing Workshop by author Suzanne Rancourt
Mon. Jan. 16 8 PM Catfish Dan - Country Music
Tues. Jan. 17 8 PM Trio de Jaz with Saxophone
Mon. Jan. 23 7 PM Historic Sch'dy Walking Tours
Discussion Group (in the Spring we walk, in the winter we talk)

"Art in Food and Food in Art," Sat., Jan. 14, 1:30 PM. Presenter, Peter Rose, author of "The Sensible Cook." Presentation based on her exhibit "Matters of Taste" at the Albany Institute. Slides of 17th century artists, recipes, food sampling, and book signing. Main Dishes courtesy of Glen Sanders Mansion. Sch'dy County Historical Society, 32 Washington Avenue. Donations \$10. Call 374-0263 for info.

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- Tidings -

Congratulations to:

• Samantha and Aaron Couture of Cucumber Alley on the birth of their twins, Miles and Arthur.

Stockade Association General Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 12

7:00 PM Social 7:30 PM Meeting

Speaker: Architect, Frank Gilmore

"East Front Street Development"

Schenectady County Historical Society
32 Washington Ave. entrance in back of building

All Stockade neighbors are welcome!

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**2nd Master Plan Meeting
with River Street Planning
January 24th 6:30 - 8:30 PM
First Reformed Church
8 North Church St., Assembly Hall**

Don't miss it and bring your neighbors!

This meeting is the second in a series on neighborhood action planning workshops for the City's comprehensive plan. It will focus on discussing the specific actions to be included in a strategy to improve and protect the Stockade neighborhood. The meeting will be very hands on, using drawings, maps and photography to present a final slate of investment initiatives. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

- Dale Miller

Stockade Parking in Winter

Parking in the Stockade can be a nightmare, especially in the wintertime with snow piling up all over the streets. And the last thing you want to have happen is to come out some snowy morning and find that your car has been towed because a snow emergency has been declared and you didn't get the news.

Well, rest easy! The Stockade mailing list covers such events. You'll get an email informing you of snow emergencies, times, dates and which side to park on. You'll also get other highly informative emails about happenings in the neighborhood. To sign up, send a blank email to HistoricStockade-subscribe@yahoo.com and reply to the confirmation message that will be sent to you. That's all you have to do.

A reminder, **Union Street is a Priority Street - there is no parking on it anytime with 3 inches or more snowfall, regardless of whether a snow emergency has been called or not.**

- Dale Miller

The Stockade Association Membership 2005- 2006

The Stockade Association has been carrying out its mission, "the protection and improvement of the properties" within its boundaries, for 48 years. Its objectives are to preserve the Historic District and the quality of life for its caretakers. The Association helps assure stability in a neighborhood that has been termed "a national treasure" and is enjoyed by visitors from all parts of America and abroad. Please support the Association and become a member by returning the coupon below.

Membership runs from October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006.

\$15 per person, \$20 per household.

\$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Business _____ e-mail _____

Please indicate if you would like to help with any of the following useful efforts:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art Show | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Riverside Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Celebrations | <input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalk Sale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Stockade Spy</i> |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Walkabout |

The Stockade Spy is distributed to the neighborhood monthly, September through May.

If you are a non-resident and

- would like to be mailed *The Stockade Spy*, it is \$10 per year. \$ _____
- would like to become a "Friend of the Stockade" (an associate membership) and support the efforts of the Stockade, your contributions are very welcome. \$ _____

If you would like to give *The Stockade Spy* as a gift, it is \$10 per year. \$ _____

Name of recipient _____

Address of recipient _____

Name of sender _____

Please make check payable to "**The Stockade Association**" Total Amount enclosed \$ _____
and send to: Stockade Association Treasurer, 10 North Church Street, Schenectady, NY 12305.

Neighborhood News

Stockade website: www.historicstockade.com.

MINUTES

STOCKADE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2005 SCHENECTADY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President Joe Fava called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Also present were members Lily Alvarez, Bob Briber, Diane DeMeo, Lyn Gordon, Fred Kindl, Dale Miller and Peter Rumora. Sylvie Briber and Kim Mabee joined the meeting and subsequently Lyn reported that the Nominating Committee recommended Gloria Kishton as a new member and, acting on a motion, the group enthusiastically and unanimously elected Gloria to Board membership. She joined the meeting.

Diane read a message from Bob Preville resigning his position as Treasurer, effective immediately, due to the pressure of personal and business commitments. After discussion Lyn agreed to resume the job of Treasurer until a permanent replacement could be found. Fred Kindl also agreed to assume the job of second Vice-President.

Diane reported on Kerst Kermis, which had total receipts of about \$2450. She anticipated expenses of about \$1500, so net income should be around \$1000. Attendance at the Stockade Inn was disappointing and costly for them. The group discussed the reasons at length: controlling seemed to be a change in the date (a week earlier than traditional) and problems in publicizing the event. The Board agreed to return to the first week in December for Kerst Kermis and the tree lighting, to 12/3/06.

The Board is concerned about volunteers for planned events. Peter reported that had to cancel the gathering at St George's for a lack of participation and support, and was about \$150 over budget for the tree lighting. Very few food contributions were received;

another symptom of a lack of public involvement. (And, as well, a symptom of Connie Colangelo's Board resignation; she had been instrumental in the tree lighting.)

Fred suggested that the March meeting be devoted to soliciting suggestions and ideas (and, hopefully, participation) from Stockade residents about activities and services they want the Association to provide. If such a meeting is promoted at the January meeting and as Lily suggested, pizza and soft drinks are provided, we might get useful suggestions and more active involvement.

The Board turned to the status of its projects currently underway:

- Peter discussed the free February Sunday brunch, to be held from 11 to 1 on 2/12/06 at the Civic Players. He went through items on the menu and members each accepted responsibility to provide one or another.

- Fred said he was willing to take over Eli's former responsibilities of finding speakers for general meetings. Fred Gilmore is scheduled for the January meeting.

- Joe said he would continue work on the concern about planes flying too low over the neighborhood.

- Dale will continue working with the Historical Society on the house plaques. The board authorized him to choose the design. Joe suggested we each take a street to identify which houses have, and which need, plaques. Members accepted various streets.

- Lily said she will work on sidewalk issues, and said she believed grant money was available to improve them. Dale is preparing a map to mark which sidewalk areas are irregular or in bad repair. Carl

(continued on page 5)



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BARBARA & MICHAEL NAUMOFF

(Neighborhood News continued from page 4)

Olsen had said he would like to work with us.

Sylvie, SPY Editor, discussed distribution of the SPY, a continuing concern. We distribute about 800 copies. The job is substantial and teenagers - all of whom are busy - find it burdensome. Joe said we should pay what it takes to get it done thoroughly and properly. Members accepted responsibility to explore alternatives.

Joe adjourned the meeting at 9:20.

- Respectfully submitted: Bob Briber

Stockade Association Board Meeting Minutes November 1, 2005

Present: Joe Fava, Mary D'Alessandro, Diane DeMeo, Lyn Gordon, Peter Rumora, Fred Kindl, Dale Miller, Bob Preville and Elena Alvarez. Frank Gilmore and Kim Mabee were present as guests.

Joe called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

East Front Street Development: Frank Gilmore made a presentation about the planned public/private development in the East Front Street neighborhood, including riverside development. The board expressed concerns with increased traffic and the connection of Riverside Park with the bike path, but overall thought that the project plan is excellent.

Correction to the October Board minutes: Payment for maintaining the website was increased by \$150 per year, to a total of \$600. Moved to accept by Diane. Seconded by Peter. Passed unanimously.

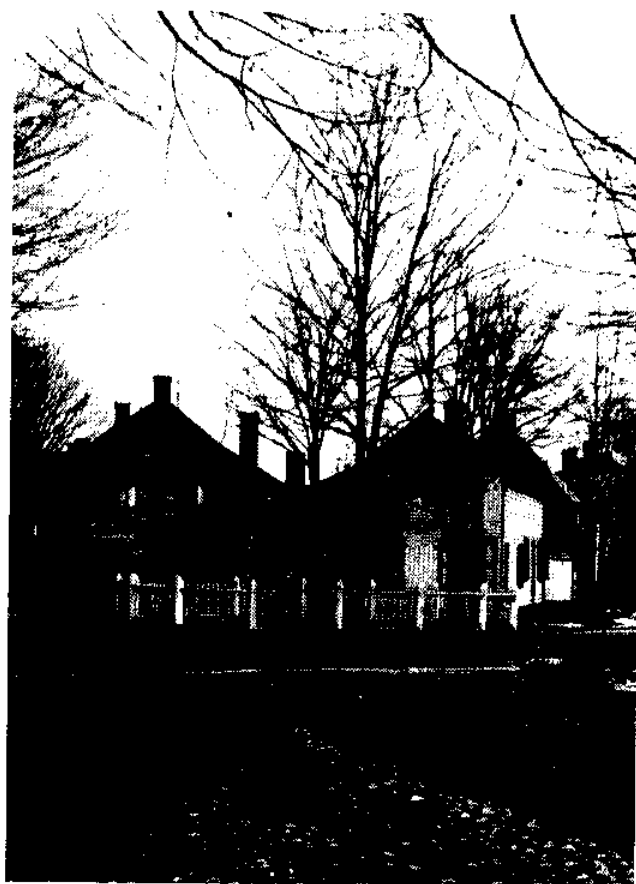
Treasurer's report: None, due to the recent transfer of responsibilities from Lyn to Bob P. This report will be given in December.

Lyn suggested Joe reinstate the president's column in the *Spy*.

Diane talked about the upcoming Kerst Kermis. Peter said Christmas tree decorating plans were coming along nicely. Kim Mabee informed the board that next summer's Canal 7-12 Fest will expand to have activities on both Saturday and Sunday in all locations. Elena will work on increasing membership and collect money at the next general meeting.

- submitted by Dale Miller who had to leave early.

Before Lawrence - Old Fort Park - 1844



Old Fort Park was established under the laws of 1844 which stated "the committee on the roads and bridges are hereby directed to cause a circular park, not to exceed 36 feet in diameter to be laid out upon satisfactory assurance that it will be enclosed with a substantial wood fence and planted with forest trees."

This marked the site of the Queen's new fort of the 1700's, where the Indian is now.


Taken from the *Schenectady County Historical Society Bulletin*, September 1962 and the *Stockade Spy*, February, 1987.



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(most of the time) Stockaders are Great Neighbors by Beverly Elander

If you go back far enough in history, the Stockade was defined by the strong fortress built around the area to protect its inhabitants. Later on, the Stockade became defined by the streets which made up its perimeter - roughly, Front Street by lower Union by Erie Boulevard by Washington Avenue. But since I've moved to the Stockade (nearly two years ago), I've observed a less concrete but just as effective a guide for defining the Stockade: its neighborliness. I don't believe there is another community in this area where the inhabitants are as considerate as they are here.

Oh sure, we've all experienced the occasional loud radio, barking dog, driveway dispute. But 95% of the interactions among neighbors in the Stockade are of the Norman Rockwell variety.

Names are unnecessary here, since being a good neighbor is the rule, not the exception. Most Good Neighbors are also Good Samaritans - they don't need to see their names in print. Good deeds are done for their own sake. (And you know who you are, anyway.)

Almost two years ago, the world was white with the first snowfall of my new life in the Stockade, but the snow had miraculously avoided my sidewalk and car. A freak of nature? Nope. My across the street neighbor who "likes to shovel" created the miracle.

The leaves on my walkway were blown into the gutter. A discriminating gust of wind? Nope again - my considerate next door neighbor aimed his leaf-blower at my property too.

A small vase of home-grown flowers appeared on my porch. Teleflora? No again. The secret delivery was done by my neighbor to thank me for mentioning her window boxes in a recent issue of the *Spy*.

I have traded plants, vegetables and friendly chatter with my neighbors. In August, the Stockade letter-carrier brought in his farm-grown corn to be distributed by one of the residents. I found my weekly maize "fix" hanging on his fence one morning. In the fall, corn was replaced by cornstalks to decorate my entry.

A brief meeting in the home of a new Stockade friend became an opportunity for tea. And tea, of course, can always be sipped at the neighborly establishments of Rosie and Richard and Rob who encourage you to sit and relax and chat.

Other new friends invited me to a Christmas Eve Party because of my participation in this year's Walkabout, and I found myself inviting neighbors who I only knew by their first name to see my new perennials in the backyard, or to sip a glass of wine with me on the deck the day of the Stockade Art Show.

The *Stockade Spy* reminds us to be neighborly when it comes to garbage cans and litter and souve-

nirs left by our canine companions. We always knew it was the right thing to do, but isn't it refreshing that the concept of "doing unto others" is a public guideline?

During this New Year, perhaps we should make an extra effort to smile, wish a neighbor Good Day - and stoop to pick up that empty soda can some non-Stockade resident tossed by the side of the road.




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Thank You for Joining the Stockade Association!

These are members as of December 15, 2005. If you don't see your name below, please support the neighborhood and send the form on page 3 to Lyn Gordon, 10 North Church Street, 12305 TODAY!

Ryan Bamberger	Elizabeth Orsini
Nancy Bell	Lisa Orsini
Ruth Bergeron	Zoe Oxley
Ellen Berry	Donald Penta
Steve Bonitatibus	Beth Petta
Susan Cerone	Mike Petta
Connie Colangelo	Henry Polgreen
Marty Colangelo	Rev. John Provost
Christianne Cummings	John Samatulski
Mary D'Alessandro	Marilyn Sassi
Ellen Desmond	Schenectady County
Morgan Desmond	Historical Society
Vivian D'Estienne	Jennifer Schmidt
Dorothy Dietrich	Larry Schmidt
Neff Dietrich	Elinore Schumacher
Lydia Eis	Van Shanklin
Neil Eklund	Dorothy Sheehan
Beverly Elander	Peter Sheehan
Peggy Farry	Susanna Sherwood
First Reformed Church	Susan Staffa
Frank Gilmore	Gertrude Sullivan
Michelle Girard	Eli Taub
Priscilla Gocha	Ann Thomas
William Gocha	Raymond Tibbits
Marie Gutowski	Paul Trinci
H. Gilbert Harlow	Susan Tyler
Martha Huggins	Rosemary VanDerhaof
Karen Johnson	Joan Vlaun
Manfred Jonas	Debra Volks
Nancy Jonas	Matt Volks
Gloria Kishton	Rev. D. Wampler
Betty Lane	Barbara Weinheimer
Jim Lane	Jennifer Wells
Robert Lemmerman	Julie White Eklund
Theresa Lemmerman	Malcolm Willison
George Marshall	Christine Witts
Patricia Marshall	Helen Witts
Mary Jane McFall	William Witts
Donald Mealy	Robert Woods
Dale Miller	Jay Wright
Kathleen Morris	Jean Zegger
Philip Morris	

Attention All Stockade Residents

Planning is in the air and the City planning activity has stirred your Stockade Association Board members to recognize that while we will take all the outside help we can get, there's still truth to the old saying that "God helps those who help themselves" and that is the business of your Stockade Association.

To get 2006 off to a good start we are planning a "brainstorming" type of session for the March General Stockade Association meeting (mark your calendars for Thursday, March 9) and all Stockade residents are invited. We want to know what are your real and most important concerns about your life in the Stockade. The main thrust of the meeting will be to give everyone who has a suggestion a chance to present it. The intent is that initially there will be no discussion so that everyone has the opportunity to describe their concerns and have their idea recorded for further consideration.

At some point, of course we will have to prioritize. Hopefully there will be time to do this at the meeting. If not, the Board members will do some prioritizing and present their suggestions for consideration at a later special meeting.

An important point to emphasize is that nothing useful gets done unless someone takes the responsibility for making it happen. We need to know what the residents consider important and we also need volunteers to say: "I think that is a great (important, whatever) idea and I would like to help make it happen." So come prepared to participate.

Again, all Stockade residents are welcome. If you have forgotten to pay your dues for this year, someone will be at the meeting to take them. If you are not a member and would like to join, you are, of course, very welcome. Membership, however, is not a requirement to participate.

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It's Not Too Early to Think of Flooding - Helen Witts

We read so much about dams giving away during heavy rain storms, we also have a worry. According to the *Daily Gazette*, Friday, October 28, 2005 issue, the Gilboa Dam didn't meet the standards.

When we had the flood of '96, the 4th highest in the record books, the dam was then discovered to have a flaw. That was one of the reasons so much water per cubic foot was released to prevent it from giving way, the release of water from the Gilboa Dam, the cresting coming from above from the River plus both Canada Creeks, and other creeks receding at once, the water in the Stockade area kept rising. Plus an ice jam downstream before Lock 7 at the bends, kept the water rising on our streets. Instead of the crests which were predicted, it kept rising.

We had a meeting after the flood to see what could be improved. I met a lady from Schoharie who worked in the offices there, by the name of Barbara who wanted to come to one of our meetings and explain the whole operation of the dam. I told this to the President at the time and that's just how far it got. No place!

When I read about the other dams that broke weeks ago, I wondered what was done about Gilboa Dam. I see my answer is nothing much occurring to the article in the *Gazette*.

We already had a threat this fall when the water in the river rose to 222 1/2 feet around October 23, 2005, just short of a few inches being on the park.

Are any of you wondering what all this has to do with our streets that lead into the river? The Schoharie Creek flows into the Mohawk River between Lock 8 and 9 and the rest of the story. It comes down by us. If there is an ice jam on the river between Lock 8 and 9 and it starts to move, it takes 30 minutes to get here. When a large amount of water is released from the dam it takes about the same time.

Let's hope we don't have any threats this winter or next spring because it can be dangerous for us with the dam in this condition and no repairs of the dam won't take place until next spring.

One thing I observed several weeks ago when I went to Schoharie: there was more water in the creek than usual for this time of the year.

If I hear anything that involves us about Schoharie Creek or Gilboa Dam and its progress or any other news, I will pass it on to the street leaders and they will pass it on to you. I promise this will be passed on one way or the other or on the website.

We all worry when the water rises. Now with all this news, we have more worries. It could be said, "Private Tears, Public Smiles" because it's no joking matter when the Mohawk River starts to rise and we all wonder just how high.

Top 7 Historical Crests

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. 232.90 ft on 3/18/1914 | 5. 227.70 ft on 3/15/1929 |
| 2. 229.20 ft on 3/19/1936 | 6. 225.90 ft on 4/3/2005 |
| 3. 228.90 ft on 3/28/1913 | 7. 222.50 ft on 10/23/2005 |
| 4. 228.50 ft on 1/20/1996 | |

Editor's Note: I was sorry not to be able to include Helen's article in the December Spy, but after talking to her, we both agreed that it was still relevant in light of the recent articles in the Daily Gazette about the work planned for the Gilboa dam. Helen says we still don't know what it all means for us here in the Stockade, for Schenectady, and for the Mohawk.

Helen Witts has been our Stockade floodleader for many years. Neighbors have volunteered to be street leaders for information sources:

- Wash. Avenue - Barbara & David Marhafer
- Governor's Lane - Jean Zegger & Pete Hornsby
- Ferry Street - Connie & Marty Colangelo
- North Street - Darlene & Jim Duggan
- Ingersoll Avenue - Helen Witts
- Cucumber Alley - Samantha & Aaron Couture
- Riverside Condominiums - Ed Andrews & Michaela French
- East Front St. - Carmella Ruscitto

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For Susan Ten Eyck Bennett

July 1, 1930 - April 29, 2004

The sidewalk slopes on Ferry Street. Just south and to the right of the Indian, so that one feels as if one is walking on a slanted board. It was for this reason that we'd gravitate to the middle of the street. Sue and Sam and I, Harriet and Lidia. On most mornings, near to seven o'clock as we could.

Arthur's Market was our destination in those days. Newspapers, a few groceries. We would meet on the street, summers near the First Presbyterian Church where Sam (Sue's feisty black poodle/spaniel mix) might try to run down a squirrel or two (never did). And then the side path through St. George's Cemetery to the store. A visit with Arthur (and sometimes Maggie) was part of this ritual.

Later, Sue might sit with long time friend Harriet Rogers in a folding aluminum chair under the maples at the Edison Apartments on Union Street where she and Harriet lived. (For over twenty years!) The simple pleasures. Visiting. Watching the world roll by. I loved her sense of history, her devotion to her family, her

quiet courage. She enjoyed rainy days "curled up with a good book," and loved Sam more than anything.

It is on windless mornings when I take my walk that Sue's memory comes rushing up to me like a flood. Always where the sidewalk slants on Ferry Street. Or very early in the day.

Note:

Harriet Rogers still lives on Union Street and occasionally sits by herself under the maple trees on summer afternoons. Sam was adopted by Bethany, Sue's granddaughter.

My apologies to all Susan's friends for taking so long to write this farewell. It is only after all this time has passed that I have been able to find any words at all.

- Catherine de Salle

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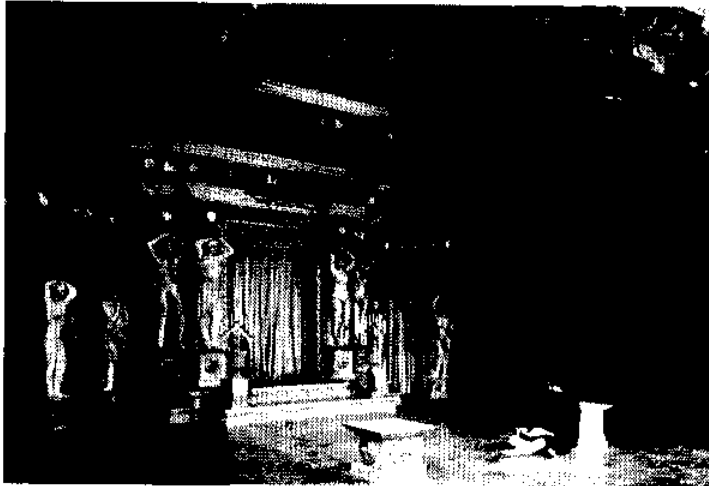
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Setting the Stage

by Ginger Ertz



This month, Stockade resident and Union College Professor Charles Steckler will be honored with a retrospective exhibition of his stage designs in the Mandeville Gallery in the historic Nott Memorial at Union College. The exhibition, which features photographs, drawings, models, masks, puppets and props from 35 years of his career, will run from January 12 - March 12, 2006. There will be an opening reception on Thursday, January 12, 4:30 to 6:30 PM, and Charles would love to see his Stockade neighbors there!

Charles has designed nearly one hundred sets in his career with Union's Department of Theater and Dance, as well as his free-lance designs for other area theaters. Charles says, "I practice an ephemeral and temporary art form. After the play is over my work ceases to exist. In fact, it is literally destroyed and all that remains is a memory and these few artifacts and images. It's a rare occasion where a stage designer's art can have a second life in a gallery exhibition."

In addition to large-format production photographs, there will be many interesting remnants of past shows: scale models, sketches, painted curtains and decorative ornaments, hand-painted tiles, moldings, puppets, and all sorts of theatrical leftovers that have survived. There will also be several videos running continuously from past shows. In conjunction with this exhibit the Gallery is producing a beautiful, full-color

catalogue.

Exhibition curator Rachel Seligman says of Steckler's work, "Exhibiting these artifacts in a gallery setting emphasizes their visual artistry and strength as aesthetic objects. Indeed, when viewed in terms of aesthetics, Charles Steckler's designs prove to be exceptional, finely tuned orchestrations of color, line, and space; carefully balanced, skillfully proportioned, and elegantly crafted. This exhibition provides a rare opportunity to view this designer's oeuvre in one place, at one time, and the value is twofold: both the breadth of Steckler's art and the presence of a distinctive style are revealed."

Steckler, who holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Yale University's School of Drama, says that stage sets are meant to aid and illuminate, and to serve as an integral part of the storytelling. The designer, often described as a jack-of-all-trades, must be knowledgeable about many things: the history of art, theater and literature as well as the traditions of architecture, crafts and furnishings and he must know how to draw, paint and build in a wide variety of materials.

The 60-page catalog of the exhibition includes essays by two theater historians: the late Jarka Burian of SUNY Albany, and Arnold Aronson of Columbia University. For more information about the exhibit, you can call the Mandeville Gallery at 388-6729, see their website at HYPERLINK "<http://www.union.edu/gallery>" www.union.edu/gallery, or give Charles a call at 374-9522 or email him at

HYPERLINK "<mailto:stecklec@union.edu>" Don't miss this opportunity to see a spectacular exhibit of our neighbor's work just a few blocks from home!

Ginger Ertz is the Educational Outreach Coordinator at the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College. She is a sculptor, a Stockade resident, and she and Charles just celebrated their first wedding anniversary on December 21.



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Coming Soon: Brunch Number Five

At some point on Sunday, February 12, 2006 between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM the cooks at the Stockade Association free, all welcomed brunch will cook the 500th omelet offered in the fifth annual brunch. Mark it on your calendar and you might want to think what delight you can contribute.

Division of City Houses Into Units On Hold

On November 29 the *Daily Gazette* reported that in a neighborhood comprehensive plan draft by the River Street Planning and Development Co. submitted to the city, stated how developers are cutting up houses to add units. During the recent comprehensive plan neighborhood meetings, neighbors raised their concerns about code violations, absentee landlords ignoring problems, and the loss of neighborhood community as tenants can easily move out rather than stay, know their neighbors, and help solve problems together.

As a result, the Schenectady City Council is not allowing the division of houses into apartments in the city until next fall. As part of the new comprehensive plan for 2006, River Street Planning will recommend zoning changes and Margaret Irwin of River Street, facilitating neighborhood meetings, may recommend reducing multifamily residential zones because single family homes in those zones should be protected. What's happening in the Stockade? Attend the meeting on January 24 and share your voice! See the *Spy* article on page 3 for details.

Birds of the Stockade

Most of the birds that occur in and around the Stockade have a lot of things in common, one of which is song. A song is a vocal display in which one or more sounds are consistently repeated in a specific pattern. Usually it is given by territorial males during the breeding season only. A few species notably some of the wood warblers, give two songs. One, the primary song, is the complex vocalization, the territorial song, by which we commonly identify the species. The other, the secondary song, is simpler in form. Some birds use different dialects. In some species such as Rose-breasted Grosbecks, Northern Cardinals and the Purple Finch the females also sing.

- James L. Taft, AKA Captain Eagle Eyes



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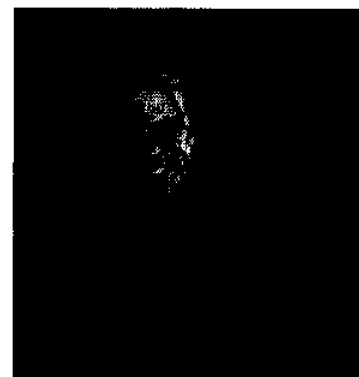
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Didn't Get a Spy?

You can usually pick up a copy of the *Stockade Spy* at: Cafe 1795 at the Indian; The Stockade Inn, corner of N. Church and Union Streets; Slick's, corner of S. Ferry and Liberty Streets and The Van Dyck at 237 Union Street.

The *Spy* is also on the web at: www.historicstockade.com

If you consistently do not get a *Spy*, please tell our delivery guy, **Josh Mlodzianowski** at **382-7654**.

Please Be A Good Neighbor:

- **For evening stroller safety during these long nights, keep your porch lights on.**
- **Avoid honking car horns**
- **Do not park on sidewalks**
- **Put trash out only at appropriate times** (Please tell new neighbors to check back page of *The Spy* for trash pick-up dates)
- **Remove emptied trash containers from streets ASAP**
- **Help frail neighbors clean their front yards**
- **Pick up dog poop (in plastic bags)**

Important Numbers

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

January Waste Collection Dates

Monday, Jan. 9 Tuesday, Jan. 24
Tuesday, Jan. 17 Tuesday, Jan. 31

Waste Collection starts at 6:15 AM. Please put waste on the curb only **after 2 PM** the day before. To help keep our neighborhood beautiful, please remove trash cans ASAP from the street when emptied.

The Stockade Spy

Editor
Sylvie Briber 377-0469
23 Washington Avenue

Staff
Diane Buckley
Gerald Plante
Catherine de Salle
Beverly Elander

Photography
Bob Briber

Finance
Janie Hayner 374-6216
6 Front Street

Delivery
Josh Mlodzianowski
382-7654

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Founder
James D. J. Schmitt

Designer
Werner L. Feibes

First Editor
Barrie C. Covert