

October 2006 Published by The Stockade Association www.historicstockade.com

Vol. 48 No. 2

A Study In Sidewalks - Neighborhood Networking - Beverly Elander



227 Green Street after work

I recently faced a problem that many Stockade residents have experienced: a dangerously deteriorating walk way in front of my home. Our neighborhood. is conducive to lovely fall walks, nathina but spoils it more than having to pick one's way. precariously

over humps and cracks and emerging weeds. When I purchased the Italianate Victorian on 227 Green Street in February of 2004, the sidewalk was in terrible shape, in part because of a huge Linden tree whose roots had caused the 8" thick concrete to attain a 45-degree angle, and partly because of sheer age. When the neighborhood kids started using my walk as a skateboard ramp, I knew something had to be done.

After talking to my contractor, Artur Wachala, studying sidewalks in the Stockade, and designing a slate and brick walk, I submitted 9 copies of my plans (a 4-page document with color photographs) along with the mandatory \$10 tiling fee to:

Christine Primiano, Department of Development Room 14, City Hall, 105 Jay Street, Sch'dy, NY 12305

I met on September 19, 2005 with the Schenectady Historic Commission, and found the experience to be both pleasant and helpful. On September 30, the Commission approved a slightly modified version of my plan (my pieces of slate were too small for pedestrian safety). I substituted slate gray concrete (Grandview Concrete Corp. has an approved concrete color chart for the Stockade) for actual slate. The concrete was scored in narrower bands than usual to simulate pieces of slate. I have since noticed that similarly tinted concrete on the property of the Dutch Reformed Church has been somehow treated to resemble the random wavy pattern in slate. Although the acquisition of slate proved too difficult and costly for me, the addition of bricks (new pavers-I needed the walk to be safe for pedestrians) produced the historic look I had hoped for.

(continued on page 15)

Arthur's Market and the Village Coffee House

Grand Opening Tuesday, October 3 6 - 10 pm

music by Jack Harlan, Canadian singer songwriter and The String Dusters **Everyone Invited!**

Nov. Spy Deadline Oct. 15



Halloween is coming!!!!!!!!!!!!

In and Around the Stockade

<u>Schenectady County Historical Society</u> **Oct. Events:** 32 Washington Avenue- 374-0263

- Exhibit: "Mourning Customs, and the Ideas Behind Them," October 14, 2006 March 15, 2007. Based on the book by Dr. Robert Wells, "Facing the "King of Terrors" Death and Society in an American Community, 1750 1990. The book deals with the community in and around Schenectady. Articles from the Society's collection will illustrate mourning practices.
- <u>Lecture</u>: Dr. Robert Wells, Union College Professor, will give a presentation on "**Mourning Customs**," and sign copies of his book. Saturday, October 21, 1:30 pm refreshments; 2 pm program. Free and open to the public.
- <u>Lecture</u>: New York Historical Association conservator, C.R. Jones, speaks on "Gravestone Preservation," history, preservation and importance. Saturday. October 14, 1:30 pm retreshments; 2 pm program. Free and open to the public.
- Children's 1920's Halloween Party Come in costume to our vintage party. Candy that children of that era enjoyed, activities, and period crafts. Satuday, Oct. 28, 1 4 pm. \$3 per child.

Schenectady County Community College

78 Washington Avenue 381-1250 www.sunysccc.edu

October Events

- Empire Jazz Orchestra Fall Performance celebrating the EJO's 15th season, Tues., October 10, 8 pm, Carl Taylor Community Auditorium, tickets \$15, general public; \$6, students. Call 381-1231.
- Hispanic Heritage Month Event, Tuesday, Oct.17, 11:30 am, Elston Hall. Free.
- Musicians of Ma'alwyck Concert Preview, Thurs.,
 Oct. 19, 11:30 am. Begley Building, Room 160. Free.
- James Howard Kunstler, local author of "The Long Emergency" (2005) and "The Geography of Nowhere" (1993), urban planning advocate, journalist, and nov elist, Thursday, Oct. 19, 7 pm, Taylor Auditorium. Tickets: \$5, general public; free for SCCC students, faculty and staff with I.D. Tickets on sale Monday, Sept. 11, in SCCC College Store, 377-1606.
- Ellen Goodman, Pulitzer prize-winning columnist presents, "Political Is (Too) Personal, Media Is (Too) Polarized and Television News Is An Oxymoron, Thurs., Oct. 26, 7 pm, Taylor Auditorium. Tickets, \$5 general public; free to SCC students and staff.
- Capital Region Wind Ensemble Concert, Sun., Oct. 29, 3pm. Taylor aud. Tickets, \$8 general; \$6 students.

Schenectady Civic Players presents Harper Lee's

"To Kill A Mockingbird" Oct. 20, 21, 22 & 25-29

In racially divided Alabama, attorney Atticus Finch takes an unpopular stand when he defends a black man accused of raping a white woman. The play's compelling characters bring to life powerful examples of integrity and quiet courage. This Pulitzer Prize winning story is a must see for all generations. Directed by our Stockade neighbor, Joe Fava. Evening curtain is 8 pm; matinces, 2:30 pm. Sch'dy Civic Playhouse, 12 S.Church St. \$12.Call 382-2081.

The Open Door Bookstore and Gift Gallery

128 Jay Street, 346-2719

October Events

- Authors Rise Routenberg and Barbara Wasser ("Divine Kosher Cuisine") will prepare tasting samples.
 Friday, Oct. 6, 12-2 pm.
- Russell Dunn and Barbara Delaney will sign "Trails with Tales," Saturday, Oct. 7, 1-2:30 pm.
- Author-illustrator **David McPhail** will sign his newest books, "Boy on the Brink," and "When Sheep Sleep," Tues., Oct. 10, 4 5:30 pm.
- Susan Edwards Richmond Poetry Reading and Signing, "Birding in Winter," Thurs. Oct. 26, 7:30 pm
- Elizabeth Rosner, signing "Blue Nude," Friday, Oct. 27, 12-1:30 pm.
- **Greg Case**, author of "One Cake, One Hundred Desserts," tasting samples. Sat., Oct. 28, 1-2:30 pm



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Stockade Association Meeting Dates

Please clip to your frig & mark your calendar

<u>Board</u>		<u>General</u>		
October	Tues. 3			
November	Tues. 7	November	Thurs, 9	
December	Tues. 5			
January	Tues. 2	January	Thurs, 11	
February	Tues. 6			
March	Tues. 6	March	Thurs. 8	
April	Tues. 3			
May	Tues, 1	May	Thurs, 10	

Speakers and programs for General Meetings will be announced in that month's *Stockade Spy*.

By Laws Amendment

An amendment has been proposed for the Association's By Laws.

Article X - Amendments

Section 1. Reads "Amendments to these By Laws may be made at the November meeting of the Association or at the Annual Meeting, provided notice of proposed amendment has been given at a previous meeting."

Article VIII. Dues-Finances, Section 3, detail b) Any expenditure of Association funds which has not been approved by the Board, and has not been budgeted, shall require the approval of 2/3rds vote of the membership (at a duly constituted meeting). Notice of the proposed expenditure shall be contained in the meeting notice.

The underline section is the addition to the By Laws.

The Stockade Association Membership 2006 - 2007

The Stockade Association has been carrying out its mission, "the protection and improvement of the properties" within its boundaries, for 49 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.

Name(s)		Address		Zip
Phone: Home	Business	e-mail		_ Date
Please indicate if y	ou would like to help with any	of the following us	eful efforts:	
	Membership Neighborhood Gelebrations			
If you are a non-re • would like to be r • would like to beco	is distributed to the neighborh sident and mailed <i>The Stockade Spy,</i> it is ome a "Friend of the Stockade offorts of the Stockade, your co	\$10 per year. " (an associate me	embership)	\$ \$
If you would like t	\$			
Name of recipient				-
Address of recipie	nt			-
	ck payable to "The Stockade		Total Amount end	- closed \$
and send to: Stock	ade Association Treasurer, 10	North Church Stre	eet, Schenectady, NY	12305.

David Lowry, Secretary

Neighborhood News Stockade website: www.historicstockade.com.

STOCKADE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING August 15, 2006

Schenectady County Historical Society 32 Washington Ave.

Board Members Present: Joe Fava, Lyn Gordon Mary D'Alessandro, Peter Rumora, Diane DeMeo David Lowry, Carol DeleMarter, Gloria Kishton. John Samatulski and Dave Lowry Board Members not Present: Dale Miller Guests of the Board; Bob Buccieri, Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corp; Jennifer Wells; Sylvie Briber, Editor of the Spy.

Joe commenced the meeting at 7:00pm. Board guest Jennifer Wells reported on her efforts to clean up graffiti around the neighborhood left by a recent vandalism spree. She said city officials proved very responsive and the graffiti had been cleaned up. She informed board members that property owners were responsible for any graffiti on the property.

Bob Buccieri of the Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation (DSIC) supplied the board with a copy of the I Love New York grant application. He informed the board that every organization can apply for one grant and that DSIC has applied in previous years on behalf of the Stockade Association to provide funds for the Walkabout. He informed the board that since they have a 501-C-3 tax-exempt status they could apply on their own, allowing the DSIC to apply for other purposes. After brief discussion, Gloria made a motion for the board to apply on its own, Dave seconded, motion passed unanimously.

The Board then reviewed the minutes of the July meeting. Minor corrections were suggested. Joe made a motion to accept the amended minutes, Gloria seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

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Lyn submitted the treasurer's report: interest income, \$4.17; expenses, \$60, distribution of flyers; checking account balance, \$11,410.40; CDs: \$25,972,03. Diane made a motion to accept the report, Mary seconded, passed unanimously.

Mary, chair of the nominating committee, reported that the committee recommended Beverly Elander be appointed a board director. Carol made a motion to accept the recommendation, Diane seconded, motion passed unanimously.

The board then discussed a fee increase for membership and creating more membership levels in addition to the individual and household. Peter reminded the board that any such increase must be approved by the general membership. He added that the current wording in the by-laws was faulty, stating that two-thirds of the membership has to pass it, but should read two-thirds of the members present, as long as there is a quorum.

Diane reported that there were 17 paid vendors for the Christmas event and requested \$2,000 be bud geted for the event. Joe said he'd like to expand the event in future years.

John then reported that he and George Marshall of the Mary Hill House Committee had identified a lawyer to represent and guide the Association in its efforts to block the move by the YWCA to place an alternative drug sentencing program in the Mary Hill House on Washington Ave. per the general membership authorization granted during the May 2006 general meeting. The Lawyer, Mary Elizabeth Slevin of Stockli, Greene, and Slevin, LLP provided the Association with a proposal. After brief discussion, John made a motion to accept the proposal and authorize funds up to \$10,000 for legal fees. Dave seconded, the motion passed with 7 ayes and 1 abstention.

Meeting Adjourned 9:45.

(continued on page 5)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

209 Union Street Schenectady, NY 12305 (in the historic Stockade District)

Sunday Worship

8:15 A.M Contemporary 11:00 A.M. Traditional 6:00 P.M. Informati (7:00 P.M. in July & August).

Wednesday Evening 6:00 Family Dinner (Sept. May) 7:00 Prayer Meeting, Youth groups.

Phone: 518-374-4546 Pax: 518-374-2505 Email: fpestmin@nycap.et.com Website: www.lstpreschurch.org

You are always welcome!





STOCKADE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING September 5, 2006

Schenectady County Historical Society 32 Washington Ave.

<u>Board Members Present</u>: Joe Fava, Dale Miller, Lyn Gordon, Mary D'Alessandro. Peter Rumora, Diane DeMeo, Beverly Elander, Carol DelaMarter, Gloria Kishton

Board Members not Present: John Samatulski David Lowry Guests of the Board: Sylvie Briber, Editor of the *Spy*

Joe commenced the meeting at 7:05 pm. In absence of secretary Dave Lowry, Carol DeLaMarter was asked to record minutes. Sylvia requests that minutes need to be circulated to board for any corrections in time to be published in the *Spy.*

New board member Beverly Elander attended for first time.

The Board then reviewed the minutes of the August meeting. Minor corrections were suggested. MSP to approve minutes as corrected.

Lyn submitted the treasurer's report: interest income, \$3.95; \$15 revenue from membership tees. expenses, \$60, distribution of flyers; Painting incentives \$150, Spy expenses \$84.72 checking account balance, \$11,194.63; CDs: \$25,972.03. MSP to accept treasurer's report.

Sylvie Briber reported that the *Spy* finished last year's publication with a \$300 surplus. Board recognized Sylvie's effort to have *Spy* support itself. Advertising income for the new year has exceeded \$7000 and includes 31 businesses who have already placed ads for the year. The Cost of a 16 page issue is about \$600.

Mary D'Alessandro gave an update on Mary Hill House and meeting with attorney, Mary Beth Slevin. John Samatulski, Joe Fava and Frank Gilmore plan to meet with Rowie Taylor from the YWCA to present options. Joe and Frank will also meet with Mayor Stratton.

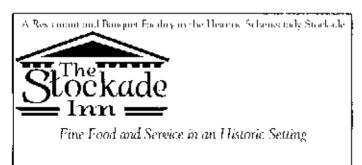
Lyn Gordon presented Association budget for the new year. In general line item revenues and expenses are unchanged from last year. Two major expenses have been included. \$10,000 for professional fees to cover anticipated legal services, based on feedback from association members last year when identifying priorities an additional \$4000 has been allo cated for Neighborhood Preservation. After discussion Peter moved, Mary seconded and motion passed to accept new budget and submit to General membership for approval in September.

Peter Rumora, chair of the Finance Committee submitted an amendment to by-laws related to number of members required to approve expenses not originally included in budget. He asked that new language be added to Article VIII Dues/Finances Section 3 Authorization, Point b) Any expenditure of Association Funds which has not been approved by the Board and has not been budgeted, shall require the approval of 2/3rds vote of the membership at a duly constituted meeting. If approved by the membership, authorization \pm will require two-thirds of members present at a duly constituted meeting. This change is also consistent with by-law reference to change Dues. Lynn moved, Beverly seconded and motion passed. Amendment will be published in the October and November Spyand will be voted on by General membership at November meeting.

Lynn reported that planning for Walkabout on September 23 is complete and the group is enthusiastic about all the new additions. Volunteers who work more than 2 hours will receive free ticket for house tour. The Group is already thinking about the 2007 tour, which will be the 50th anniversary of Historic Stockade.

The Christmas tree lighting event was discussed. Peter Rumora will chair the event with support from Beverly Elander and Mary D'Alessandro.

(Neighborhood News continued on page 6)



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Other community participation will be sought especially for food. The Board agreed that responses to the summer picnic had created interest in similar events and felt using Yahoo list to enlist help can work. Group discussed idea of getting trees donated in memory of Stockade residents or friends and family members.

Date Miller gave update on plaques and street signs.

Gloria reported no progress on the Green Street property and reminded Joe and John they offered to speak with current owner. They also noted there continues to be a lack of consistent enforcement of historic codes with some property owners.

Based on a priority list of members, Carol requested the status on any discussion with the city about snow removal plans. Board members disclosed that proposals in past have not been acted on and new effort may not go anywhere. Dale telt the snow removal plan could be possible especially if neighborhood submits a plan on communicating parking restrictions in a timely fashion through block leaders program and expanded use of Yahoo group.

Meeting Adjourned 9:25.

Minutes of the Stockade Association General Meeting September 14, 2006

Bob Buccieri of the Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corp. gave a presentation entitled, "The New Canal Village" which outlined how the Village of Fairport in Monroe County near Rochester used the Erie Canal as a tocal point for development and revitalization. One member asked if this presentation was to promote the idea of placing docks in the Stockade's Riverside Park. Bob said not necessarily in the Stockade but the City did want to develop its waterfront.

President Joe Fava then moved the meeting to official business. He asked that the minutes for the May 2006 General Meeting be reviewed and adopted.



Bob Briber made a motion to approve, Diane DeMeo seconded, passed unanimously

Lyn Gordon gave the Treasurer's report: in last year's budget there was an overall profit of \$1.631, the *Spy* profit was \$426; Kerst Kermit profit, \$779; Walkabout profit, \$4755. Current checking account balance: \$10,008.86, CDs, \$26,471.20. Jennifer Wells made a motion to accept the report, Peter Rumora seconded, passed unanimously.

Lyn then reported on the proposed 2006-07 budget: all budget lines will remain the same with three exceptions, a new preservation line of \$4,000, neighborhood outreach of \$500, and professional fees, \$10,000. Diane DeMeo made a motion to approve, Mary D'Alessandro seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Peter Rumora informed the membership that an amendment to the by-laws will be presented for approval at the November general meeting. The amendment will add wording to the current section for approval dues increases. Currently it reads that two-thirds of all members must approve but it is next to impossible to get all members to a meeting. Therefore the words "at a duly constituted meeting" will be added.

Many members expressed concerns that the flyer with the meeting notice was delivered only the day before. Bob Briber suggested hiring someone to the notices if need be and John Samatulski suggested using U.S. Mail for special meetings. Joe Fava pointed out the official notice is in the *Spy* but he and other board members promised prompter deliver of notices in the future.

Lyn Gordon reported on the Walkabout plans and reviewed some new additions to the event including a colonial encampment and English country dancers. Gloria Kishton reported on the Waterfront fair which is the same day. This year will feature a restoration fair, with craftsmen demonstrating various historic home restoration methods.

Date Miller reported there is money to restore or replace historic signs. He asked for volunteers to clean and paint signs. Members asked why the city was not doing this. One member pointed out that Stockade residents are heavily taxed but get little services from the city in return and are often asked to contribute towards any neighborhood improvements. Many members agreed. Jennifer Wells did point out the City did a good job cleaning up after a recent graffiti spree.

Date Miller said he was working on a snowplow plan to submit to the City and considered using the Yahoo list, but it is not reliable enough. (contid on p. 7)

(Neighborhood News continued from page 6)

Dave Lowry and John Samatulski reported on the efforts of the Mary Hill House committee: The committee met several times over the summer and a drafted a letter sent to all City Council members, the County Legislature, the City's state senators and legislator, US Senators, Congressman and the Mayor. Further, the Committee identified and contracted with a lawyer, Mary Beth Slevin.

Joe Fava asked for a motion to adjourn, Sylvie Briber made a motion, it was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, David F. Lowry, Secretary



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Stupendous Stoop Awards 2006

Stoop is derived from the Dutch word "Stoep," meaning a small porch, platform or staircase leading to the entrance of a house.

Congratulations and thank you to the following for their outstanding efforts in making our neighborhood more beautiful! Thanks to all other neighbors, too, who put a little extra into their stoop efforts.

The Stockade Garden Group sponsors and funds the Stoop Awards. The 2006 winners are:

1st prize \$100

Deb Ashline, 125 North Ferry Street

2nd prize \$75

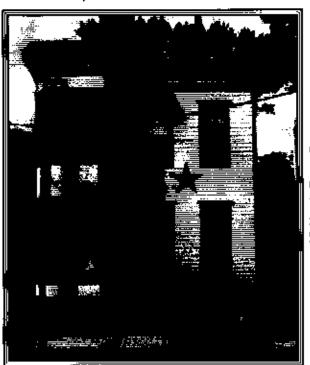
Karen Johnson, 113 Union Street

3rd prize \$50

Marilyn Sassi, 121 Front Street

Congratulations and thank youll!!!!!!!!!!

Committee: Steve Kowalski, Barbara Marhafer Mary D'Alessandro



125 North Ferry Stree



PINHEAD SUSAN'S

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Dining from 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Monday - Friday 12:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Saturday - Closed Sunday Spirits served until closing



Birds of the Stockade



the migration underway, various species of birds are passing through. A lot of the neotropical migrants move at night and feed and rest during the day.

Different species leave the coast at various points, but most depart north

of North Carolina are nonstop, over water flights of eighteen hundred miles or more. One good example is the Blackpoll Warbler which breeds in boreal forests. In the fall it heads towards the coast and goes over the water to South America and winters down near the Amazon Rainforest. It makes a round trip migration of at least twenty-five hundred miles.

> James L. Taft AKA Captain Eagle Eyes

Enjoy the fall migration - keep your eyes open for colors - Raptors - and ears open for Geese.

Don't Get Towed!

Winter and snow are coming soon. And with enough snow comes snow emergency; odd/ even side parking and car towing. Stay up-to-date on snow emergencies by joining the neighborhood email list. Just send a blank email to:

HistoricStockade-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

and reply to the confirmation email you will get. Call Dale at 381-6189 if you have problems.

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commissioners - contents continues , web design 6 housest

Do You Know About The Neighborhood Bulletin Board?

There is a bulletin board located on the Front Street side of the 1795 Cafe (Arthur's Market) for the use of Stockade neighbors and is the property of the Stockade Association. Here's how it works:

- 1. Only for items that relate to the Stockade neighborhood
- 2. Size no larger than business cards and 3" x 5" cards
- 3. Label items "For Stockade Bulletin Board."
- 4. Put date on the back of item.
- 5. Drop in the mailbox at 27 North Ferry Street.

Items will be posted immediately and taken down after 30 days. For any questions, please call Joe Fava, 374-6190.



Schenectady County Community College

78 Washington Avenue Schenectady, NY 12305 www.sunysecc.edu (518) 381-1366



SCHENECTADY CIVIC PLAYERS

78th SEASON - 2006-2007

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD Oct. 20-22 & 25-29

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN Dec. 8-10 & 13-17

THE TALE OF THE ALLCERIST'S WIFE Jan. 26-28 & Jan. 31-Feb. 4

INVENTING VAN GOGH Mar. 16-18 & 21-25

OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD May 11-18 & 16-20

12 South Church Street, Schenectady Tickets: \$12 Call box office at 382-2081;

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10:00 Traditional service in main
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Planning to Do Some Outside Repairs & Painting?

You may need to file an application

If you are planning outside repairs and painting, Including those that are identical to what was there before, you may need to file an application. Any repairs, painting, or sidewalk replacement seen from the public right of way must have approval from the Schenectady Historic Commission. Applications, full deadline and meeting schedule, and further information are available from Cari Hourigan, 382-5054

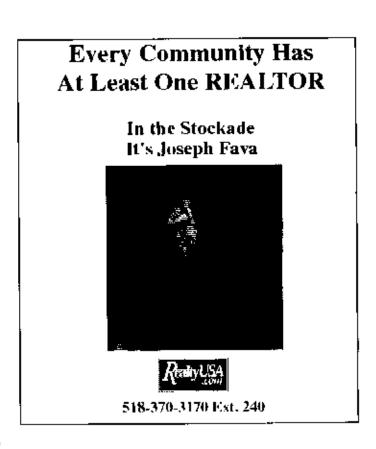
(CHOURIGAN@GMAIL.COM) in the Department of Development, Room 14, 105 Jay Street, City Hall, Schenectady, 12305. Fees for Historic Commission applications are \$10 for residential applications and \$20 for commercial applications. Following is the schedule for application deadlines and 7:00 PM review meeting dates for 2006:

Alpplication deadline Review meeting

October 2 October 16

November 6 November 20

December 4 December 18



Victor Herbert Revue at Stockade Inn

Riverview Entertainment Productions Inc. returns to the Stockade Inn for two dinner theater performances of the new revue "To the Victor: Herbert, That Is!" at 6:30 pm Wednesdays, October 11 and 18.

Written and staged by Martin P. Kelly, Riverview's producing artistic director, the comprehensive revue features some of Victor Herbert's most famous songs from his many operettas such as "Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life." "Thine Alone," and "Toyland" and some surprising comedy songs he wrote for the music halls and vaudeville including "A Good Cigar Is A Smoke."

Direct from its debut this past August at the Bridge Theater, a unique venue built on the last bridge of the Champlain Canal in Whitehall, NY, the revue has been brought to Schenectady to accommodate Riverview's many fans in the Capital District.

The cast features such favorites as Janet Stasio and Barry Corlew, Eric Shovah and Bonnie Williams. Music director and accompanist is Vince Bonafede, also a well-known area performer.

During the past decade, Riverview Productions has presented a number of revues and plays at the old Mohawk Club and the new Stockade Inn. The two performances are open to the public and are sponsored by the Lower Mohawk Club, former owners of the building, now owned and operated by The Stockade Inn, on the corner of North Church and Union Streets. The Lower Mohawk Club still has facilities at the upscale Stockade Inn.

The meal at 6:30 pm each evening, includes a choice of chicken picatta or cedar plank salmon, complete with salad, dessert and coffee, combined with the show for one price of \$43, including tax and gratuity. The show follows immediately after dinner at 7:30 pm.

Reservations are required in advance. To reserve, call Riverview at 518-273-4090. Specify meal choice. A senior discount for persons 60 or older is available.



55th Annual Stockade Villager's Outdoor

Art Show A Beautiful Day in the Stockade!

The number of artists that exhibited this year was approximately the same as last year - perhaps one or two less but the numbers are still coming in. We had many people tell us that this show had some of the best art work that they have seen in the area in years - they said that it was real quality work. I must admit that I thought so myself.

We had many new artists and they fared very well. It was an interesting mix. One artist told us that this was an ideal show for visual fine arts and that there are not many shows for the fine arts only anymore. The trend is to mix art with crafts and that does not work for the artists.

That being said, the weather did cooperate until mid afternoon and then the sky opened up and everyone scrambled to put their work away and some packed up immediately upon hearing the first roar of thunder. We did complete the judging and the prizes were awarded.

The winners for 2006 are:

First prize Frank Gilmore Second prize Jo Ambrose Third prize Louise Woodard

Honorable mention:

David Waite Marilee Llitwa
Helga Pritchard Bob Laper
Barry Middleton Laura Walsh
Jeffery Marks Anne Pascale
Jessica Scisci Robin Rosenthal
Hana Panek Gail Kort

Young artists:

First prize Alec Acevedo Second prize Danielle Weires

Nicholas J. Colangelo award — Linda Biggers Ernest A. R. Cohen award — Tim Prendergast James Gilliland/GeorgeWeinheimer award —

oak room artist went to Hana Panek

People's Choice — Karen Rosasco

A big thank you to all the residents that volunteered to help and to all those that shared their sidewalks with the artists.

Connie Colangelo

Stockade Villager's Outdoor Art Show 111 No. Ferry Street Schenectady, NY 12305 (518) 374-7355 crcnmc@aol.com www.historicstockade.com/artshow

Everyday Art

- Catherine de Salle

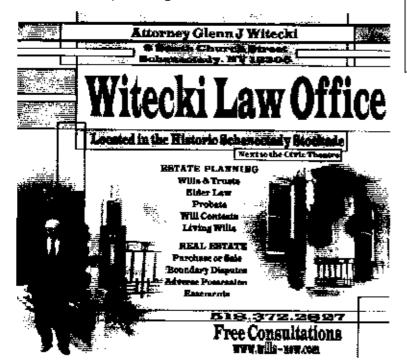
October may offer some splendid afternoons to paint outdoors. This can be a wonderful experience, not soon forgotten. There is nothing like painting outside in late summer with the sun on your back. You may find on your return trip home that the little ache in your soul has flown away; like cotton blown from a milk-weed pod. At the very least you will have an enriching if not astonishing experience.

You can completely outfit yourself with oil paints, especially if you acquire a "French Easet." This beautifully designed piece of equipment will enable you to fold canvas, paints, palette, etc. into one unit light enough to carry to desirable locations.

Watercolors are easy to assemble for traveling around. Find an old back-pack or a sack with a shoulder strap. Stuff it with brushes and a small paint kit with pans of color. Some of the spiral-bound watercolor paper is of surprisingly good quality and you can take along several pads, working on one, while another dries.

Windless days are best. Look for interesting shapes rather than color. Bridges and water towers, boats at a dock, or large rocks. Try not to be afraid of the whiteness of the paper or canvas. Mix up some lovely color and and lay it on, thick and strong. Results really don't matter. Don't be discouraged by them.

Painting hasn't changed much in the last two or three hundred years. The things that change the least are the things that can't be improved. Like Beethoven, or a good bottle of wine. Jane Austen. A loaf of home-made bread. We keep coming back for more.



--- Tidings ---

Condolences to:

- The Tiemann family on the recent passing of Jerry Tiemann, long time Stockade resident on Union Street.
- The Roberge Quickenton family on the recent passing of Denise Roberge Quickenton of North College Street.

Welcome to:

- Karen and Jeff Mallia and their sons Sean and Jack to Washington Avenue.
- Sonny LaRose and Donna Smith to North Church Street.

Beth, Mike and Elizabeth Petta have moved from North Church Street to Front Street.

If you know of any items for "Tidings" such as neighborhood arrivals, departures, births, deaths, anniversaries, or special achievements, please call Sylvie Briber, 377-0469.



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See Plaque article, page 14

The Sunday Stroller

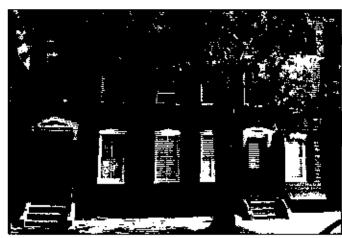
Photos by Bob Briber

So many Stockade neighbors are doing won derful things to make their building and our neighborhood more attractive. Here are just some I've noticed as I've strolled around with our little Sheltie dog. Lollipop. You probably have noticed some wonderful ones, too. Let's celebrate the good things that so many neighbors are doing. Give me a call, 377-0469. I'll be happy to include them in the next *Spyl - Sylvie*



Glen Witecki was having fun designing his whimsical topiaries and landscape at 8 South Church Street





Thanks go to the owners of 51-53 Washington Avenue who have done extensive work to restore the important landmark of Charles Proteus Steinmetz's first home in Schenectady in 1894.



Thanks go to Barbara & Mike Naumoff for the beautiful new "Amish green" facade of Slick's Tavern corner of South Ferry and Liberty Streets.

Just in time for the Art Show and Walkabout, too!

Again, a beautiful restoration and landscaping, thanks to the owners at 106 Union Street.



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1906 Love Letters Discovered

It was discovered, one fall day in 2005, in a dark corner of the cellar at 22 Washington Avenue, secreted away and neatly tucked into two black tin boxes, the love letters between Joe Clements, Jr. and Bertha Platt. Two boxes, because one contained the letters to her, and the other to him, all care fully folded, and many preserved in their original envelopes, all numbered as they were received. Over 300 letters were found that represent their courtship correspondence between 1906—1907, the year leading up to their marriage on January 12, 1907. Written in a charming and candid style, they capture some interesting details of life in 1906 when Joe was living in Schenectady and Bertha in New Britain, Connecticut.

Joe and Bertha owned #18-24 Washington Avenue from 1909 to 1956 and lived at #22 Washington on the third floor from 1937 until their deaths - Joe in 1945 and Bertha in 1960. They had a door put in, connecting #22 with #18 because Joe's sister, Edith, lived next door. The Colangelos bought the house in 1956 and Bertha rented from them.

Marty Colangelo discovered the letters and then Elinore Schumacher, residing at #22, bitten by curiosity, researched the family and was unable to find any living descendants. Elinore lovingly typed all 300 letters! Here, and in future issues of *The Spy*, are some interesting excerpts from them.

This is the first letter of their correspondence, as they met on Oct. 17, 1905. The "most interesting girl" is Bertha.

The Breslin Broadway & 29th Street New York

New York, Dec. 26, 1905

My dear Miss Platt:

I am almost persuaded to think I am fast becoming a real "Hoo Do." As I remarked to you that from the first time I entered New Britain there seemed to come a procession of sad incidents. You may recall that yesterday I was high glee over the prospect of a fine visit - and dance with a most interesting girl. When I arrived in her town she had just been taken to Albany threatened with an attack of appendicitis and is now under the personal care of the best physician in our vicinity. He has always been successful so we all are unusually optimistic.

My evening certainly was spoiled. I have just written her a cheery letter as a fellow could after coming in from "The Music Master" with his face streaked by reason of rainy eyes. You probably have seen it. And do you know that if that play teaches one thing it is, to cheer up, don't wear your affairs on your sleeve and keep others happy no matter how you feel yourself. Quite substantiates my theory don't you think?

Now in spite of the spell I seem to be casting in the role of "Hoodo," believe me it is quite a new one and if under these circumstances you care to allow me to accompany you to your "New Years" Dance, I would be pleased.

I beg your pardon if my phoning, writing this letter, and asking you to the dance is in any degree annoying, I shall hope to know simply and <u>frankly</u> Friday evening.

I have just re-read this and it sounds mechanized and therefore not in accordance with ideas of natural simplicity. I am of nine minds to tear it up and just write and ask you to go with me to the dance but I'll let the wavering 10th prevail and here goes.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Clements, Jr.

Open Cupboard

Each morning as the coffee brews I open the cupboard to choose a mug Handpicked by subtle connections for this particular day

The tall yellow, with finger painted grapes, burgundy with blue leaves, Chosen often, I notice, on cloudy days,

A set of colorful four given by daughter and son in law, The first Christmas I awoke alone in the hillside tarmhouse

Or the cerulean blue, hand-thrown, pot-bellied cup, Rough grooves and ridges round, comfort texture under my hand, One of a pair from the ceramic gallery where my son worked The summer before his Senior year.

"Get them both," he said, as he arranged the pieces on the sale shelves. Outside the shop

More than the cup gets filled

Catherine Norr

SERVING THE STOCKADE NEIGHBORHOOD

WHAT'S THE REAL VALUE OF YOUR HOME?

CALL JOAN OR SUE TODAY AT BROKERS NETWORK FOR A COMPLIMENTARY MARKET VALUE ANALYSIS.

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SUSAN CERONE

ASSOCIATE BROKER
CONTRACTOR/DEVELOPER

518 527 9720

Latest on Stockade Historic Plaques



Have you ever wanted a special plaque on the front of your home like some others you've scen

as you have strolled around our neighborhood?

Plans are afoot to make this happen. The total cost is \$200 for a 12" x 6" plaque. The Stockado Association will sponsor a matching grant of \$100 for the first 15 homeowners that apply. This project is in conjunction with the Schenectady County Historical Society where you can get an application.

The current plaques on Stockade homes now have just the Historical Society's logo in the upper right corner. The new plaques will have a Stockade Association logo (see above) in the upper left corner, the date of when the house was built, and then still have the Historical Society's logo in the upper right corner. This is also a chance for neighbors to update their current plaque.

We are encouraging more history about each house (famous residents, historical events, architectural style). The staff at the Historical Society can help you use their wonderful resources. More in November.

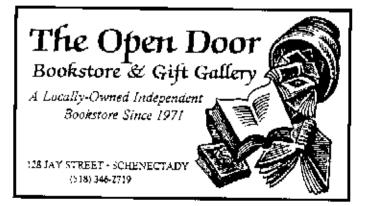
Historic St. George's Church

30 North Ferry Street
Schenectady, New York 12305
The Reverend Dr. W. David McSwain, Rector

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:00 a.m. Parish Mass

10:00 a.m. Brunch & Fellowship

Phone: (518) 374-3163



(Sidewalks continued from page 1)

Earlier, in July of 2005, the City pronounced the offending Linden in front of my house dying from the inside, predicted it would eventually come down on its own if not cut down, spray-painted a large orange "X" on its trunk, and told me to call back in September. Donovan's Tree Service removed the tree soon afterward, but a (still ongoing) property line question prevented the roots from being ground out until late spring of 2006.

The most labor-intensive part of putting in the new sidewalk was the removal of tons of 6-8" thick concrete during the wickedly scorching days of late July and early August. Approximately 3 tons of rock dust were used to create a suitable bed for both the concrete and the bricks.

One of the nicest parts of the project was my ability to provide input at many of the stages. Although I was unable to do the physical labor, I was really good at giving directions!

The Stockade is the only neighborhood I know where residents are awarded an incentive of up to \$300 for installing a new sidewalk. It is retreshing to know that members of the community appreciate the time and money home-owners spend on making their properties safer and more attractive. (Contact Lidia Pasamanick at 377 0802 for details.)

The front area was finally landscaped two days before the Villagers Art Show. Stockade resident George Soltysiak added peat moss and fertilizer to the sand already present in the gardens-to-be, and plant-





ed nine huge plum/peach colored mums in the 3 small areas by the house, as well as a 5-foot Alberta Spruce next to the porch. The 15x4-foot strip by the curb was sodded, and is awaiting the planting of a Japanese Lilac Tree, courtesy of ReTree Schenectady. Stockade resident/Historical Commission member Beth Petta had suggested I contact the organization. Stan Hickok from the organization initially offered me 5 choices, and Stockader Peter Rumora helped me narrow it down to the lilac, which is noted for its large clusters of intensely fragrant white blossoms in late June and early July. The tree will be planted in late October. (Info about ReTree Schenectady, call Stan Hickock at 374-2477.)

A bronze and brass colored marker I had special ordered arrived this week. It will proclaim to all the Stockade that there is one proud resident living at 227 Green Street!

(Total project with landscaping - about \$3600)



Before work began at 227 Green Street!



PHONE: (518) 374-8713 AND (518) 374-5413

MR. JAMES FAMILY HAIR CARE CENTER

249 State Street Schenectacy, NY 17305

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Thank you, Spy Patroons

The following **31** businesses have paid for advertising for the entire year. We thank them for their commitment to *The Spy* and the community. Please support them by your patronage.

Arthur Painting & Construction Brigitta Strelka, Veronica Lynch

Capital Printing

Chris Galvin, Purdy Realty LLC

Daily Gazette

Daniel C. Ertel CPA, P.C.

Dragonfly Pottery

Family Tire and Auto Service Centers

First Presbyterian Church First Reformed Church Frank Gallo & Son Florist

Joan Purtell, broker/appraiser/consultant

Joe Fava, Realty USA

Katbird Shop

Moon and River Cate

Mr. James Family Hair Care Center

Didn't Get a Spy?

You can usually pick up a copy of the *Stockade Spy* at: Arthur's Market 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

Please report any wrongdoings to the police immediately.

Important Numbers

Emergency 911

Sch'dy Police 382-5200 Police Emergency

Trash Collection, Waste Collection Schedule & Recycling 382-5144

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

October Waste Collection Dates

Monday, Oct. 2 Tuesdays, Oct. 10, 17, 24, 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.

Northwind Service

Open Door Bookstore and Gift Gallery

Parcel Post Plus

Petta's

Pinhead Susan's Irish Pub Preville Technology Services St. George's Episcopal Church Schenectady Civic Players

Schenectady County Community College

Stockade Inn Studio 232

Susan Cerone, broker/developer

Trudi Thun, Veronica Lynch Witecki Law Offices

YWCA of Schenectady

Please Be A Good Neighbor:

- For evening stroller safety, 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 poops (in plastic bags)

The Stockade Spy

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