



November 2007 Published by The Stockade Association www.historicstockade.com Vol. 49 No. 3

Pumpkin Passion!

Photos by Chris Waldron



Now that it gets dark earlier, please put your front and back porch lights on for safety.

STOCKADE EVENTS

- **Stockade Association Meeting** - Thursday, November 8 p. 3
- **Neighborhood Watch Meeting** - Tuesday, Nov. 27 p. 10
- **Stockade Tree Lighting & Kerst Kermis** - Sunday, Dec. 2

**Dec. Spy
Deadline
Nov. 15**

Calendar In and Around the Stockade

Schenectady County Historical Society

32 Washington Avenue 374-0263.

•**Sat., Nov. 10** "The History and Lore of the Adirondack Fire Towers" with presenter, Marty Podskoch. Fires raged out of control in NYS's vast wooded areas during the late 19th and 20th centuries. The first fire tower was built in 1909 on Mount Morris in the Adirondacks. Come learn about others and the view from the top! 1:30pm refreshments, 2:00pm Program. Open to the public. Free - donations appreciated.

FESTIVAL OF TREES - Nov. 17 - Jan. 2

Sch'dy County organizations will decorate a variety of trees for display at SCHS and the YWCA. Ten trees will be up for silent auction, ready to compliment your holiday decorations. Proceeds to benefit SCHS & YWCA. The Hugh Platt Garden Club decorates the Museum and local collector, Robert Halley decorates a tree with antique Christmas ornaments.

First Reformed Church

Alternative Christmas Faire

Sun., Dec. 2, 12-4pm 8 North Church St.
gifts & ideas supporting local & international charity

Open Door Bookstore 128 Jay Street 346-2719

November Events

Sat. Nov. 3, Annual Holiday Open House, 1-3pm

Sat. Nov. 10 Gail Fraser will sign "Stealing Lumby."
1-2:30pm.

Sat. Nov. 17 Steve Charney and David & Nikki Goldbeck will sign "The ABC's of Fruits and Vegetables and Beyond," 12-1:30pm

1-2:30pm Matt McElligott will sign "Backbeard: Pirate for Hire."

Fri. Nov. 23 Gregory Maguire will sign "What-the-Dickens: The Story of a Rogue Tooth Fairy."
2-3:00pm

Stories for children - meet a character from "Where the Wild Things Are." 10:30am - ages 3+

Moon and River Cafe

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Sat. & Sun. Brunch music nightly

- Thurs., Nov. 1, 7:30pm Native American Lecture by Dave Cornelius (1st Thursdays)
- Fri., Nov. 2 8pm 3/4 North -folkpoprock - amazing!
- Mon. Nov. 5 7-9pm Story Circle-come tell a story or just listen (1st Mondays)
- Tue., Nov. 6 8pm The String Dusters - bluegrass
- Wed. Nov. 7 6pm Discussion "The Great Transformation: From Empire to the Human Family." (1st Wednesdays)
- Fri., Nov. 9 8pm Cavanaugh & Kavanaugh-folk duo
- Sat., Nov. 10 7pm Beatles Nite - Susanne Stratton
- Wed., Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Eve guitarist Johnny D.
- Sat., Nov. 24 8pm Terri Roben & John Birchler
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- **Musicians of Ma'alwyck Concert Preview**
Thurs, Nov. 8, 11:30am, Begley Bldg., Rm.160 Free.
- **Musicians of Ma'alwyck Concert and Dinner**
An all-Spanish program, Ximeniz, Laporta, Sor, & others for violin, guitar, cello. Spanish Tapas dinner and wine tasting. Tues., Nov. 13, 6pm, Elston Hall. Tickets, \$50. CollegeStore, Elston Hall. 377-1606.
- **SCCC Guitar Ensemble**, Wed., Nov. 28, 7:30pm
Lally Mohawk Room. Free.

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Stockade Association Meeting - All neighbors welcome!

Thursday, November 8 7pm Social 7:30pm Meeting

Schenectady County Historical Society 32 Washington Ave. (entrance in back)

SPEAKERS: Assistant Chief of Police Falvo and Commissioner Bennett

TOPIC: About the Camera Program

Also Voting on Bylaws Revisions Concerning Term Limits

Please note your calendar: (Vice President Lyn Gordon conducting the Meeting)

Future Stockade Association Meeting Dates: Thurs, January 10 Thurs., March 13 Thurs., May 8

The Stockade Association Membership 2007 - 2008

For more than half a century, the Stockade has been described as "a national treasure," and enjoyed by thousands of visitors from across America and the world. This year, the Stockade Association celebrates 50 consecutive years of providing protection and improvement of the properties within its boundaries. Among the many Association objectives are preservation of this Historic District and quality of life for its caretakers.

This year, a 2007-2008 membership card is being provided for individuals/households joining the Association. With the membership card comes a special bonus offer from *The Stockade Inn*. Members presenting their 2007-2008 Membership Card at *The Stockade Inn* will receive a one-time free appetizer (up to a \$9 value) with the purchase of an entree.

Please support the Stockade Association by becoming a member. Simply complete this form and mail with your remittance to the address indicated below at your earliest convenience.

Membership: October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008. \$15 per person, \$20 per household. \$_____

Name(s) _____ Address _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Business _____ e-mail _____ Date _____

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

Art Show Membership Riverside Park Walkabout Neighborhood Watch
 Garden Group Neighborhood Celebrations Sidewalk Sale *The Stockade Spy* Government Affairs

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. Date _____ \$_____
- 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 _____ Date _____

Address of recipient _____

Name of sender _____

Please make check payable to "***The Stockade Association***" Total Amount enclosed \$_____

and send to: Stockade Association Treasurer, 19 Washington Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12305.



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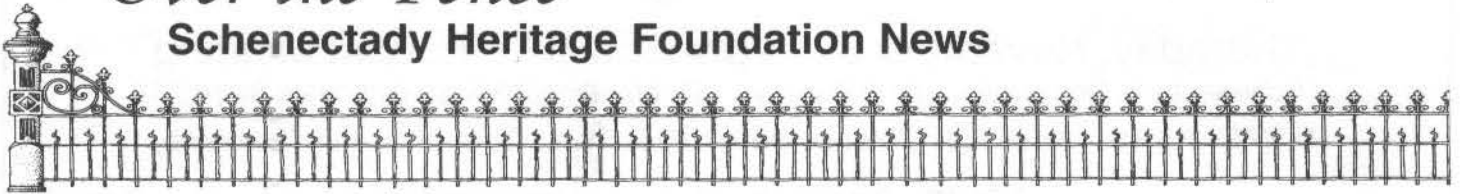
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Over the Fence

- Gloria Kishton, Chair

Schenectady Heritage Foundation News



The Foundation's Preservation Fair at the Stockade Walkabout was quite successful. Wood shavings flew as Contractor's Millwork of Sharon Springs demonstrated how they make windows and other custom millwork the "old-fashioned" way with antique milling equipment. Other exhibitors showed hand-painted floor cloths, specialty painting, including trompe l'oeil, faux finishes and gilding, electrical contracting, and interior contracting. Schenectady's Historic District Commission and the Foundation also distributed information. The Foundation hopes to expand the Preservation Fair every year and welcomes your recommendations for exhibitors whose work promotes historic preservation.

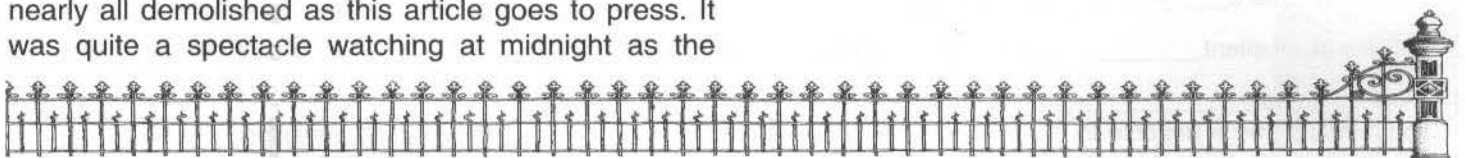
Tom Killeen, owner of 221 Green Street, now has a building permit from the City of Schenectady to begin restoring his building at 221 Green Street. This was no easy task! The City Building Department required detailed architectural plans and construction plans before they would issue a building permit to Tom, due to the complexity of the restoration project. Schenectady Heritage Foundation has been working with Tom for six years, with the goal of saving this pre-Civil War era house. The Stockade Association helped by buying the construction plans, which they are allowing Tom to use for his work. The Foundation's grant is also ready to kick in as work progresses on the restoration. Things are definitely moving in the right direction!

The Robinson Furniture buildings (c. 1900) are nearly all demolished as this article goes to press. It was quite a spectacle watching at midnight as the

giant jaws of the wrecking machine first chewed away at the backs of the buildings, then devoured the beautiful stone, wood and iron craftsmanship on the facades in a few gulps. After communicating with Metroplex authorities about the possibility of salvaging some of the more interesting architectural elements from the facades, two large stone cubes with carvings of grapes were left on the sidewalk, sturdy enough to withstand the demolition. At press time, we are not sure if these stones will be saved and reused elsewhere.

The Robinson demolition also initiated discussion of a possible historic buildings parts warehouse in Schenectady. At the Foundation's September meeting, this idea was explored and we are now looking at spaces to house such a facility. Historic building parts are useful not only for preservation projects and restorations, but also for creative purposes. In the past, many restoration materials could be found locally at Dorp Salvage Company on Broadway, which was housed for many years in an old school building. But, after Dorp closed, the school building was demolished last year and is now . . . another "shovel-ready" site.

As a matter of record, Schenectady Heritage Foundation would be hard-pressed to condone demolition of an historic building. However, since so much demolition has taken place in Schenectady in recent years, the Foundation is planning to discuss with Metroplex a process to salvage beautiful architectural elements from historic buildings before they are ruined during demolitions.



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Neighborhood News

Stockade website: www.historicstockade.com

October 2, 2007

Stockade Association Board Meeting Summary

Guest Dale Miller updated board on the historic house plaques and the first 2 plaques purchased and installed by Robert Woods for two houses on North Ferry St. There will be an unveiling on October 7 at 5pm. The Plaque Program Committee currently includes Dale Miller and Sylvie Briber. Application should be available on Historic Stockade website. Stockade Association will offer incentive to share cost of plaque with homeowners who are Association members.

The meeting was presided over by President Joe Fava who offered special words of thanks for Lyn Gordon and Sylvie Briber for successful Walkabout. Chairman Lyn Gordon reported no glitches and successful teamwork and great weather made for a great Walkabout and Waterfront Faire. It is too early to report on money raised but preliminary report is presale tickets had increased and ticket sales day of the event may be less than previous year.

The membership Committee chair, George Marshall, will prepare an article for *The Spy* on incentives and value of Stockade Association membership.

Beverly Elander of Safety Committee reports that Neighborhood Watch group meets the 4th Tuesday each month. Tree-trimming being done by the city during October should improve street lighting.

Gloria Kishton of Zoning and Preservation Committee led a discussion about city process to address code violations and need to protect historic properties from neglect.

Group discussed fund-raising ideas that would provide additional income through the year. Group would support sale of Stockade items like a calendar or notecards.

Sylvie Briber, editor of *The Spy* reported she is experimenting with color in some issues as money allows. She has also started a new column "Sunday Stroller" which highlights efforts in the neighborhood to improve the Stockade.

As agreed at last meeting and in keeping with by-laws, Conflict of Interest Statement was distributed to each Board member and officer to sign.

Next meeting of the General Membership of the Stockade Association is Thursday, November 8th. Other General meetings are Thursday, January 10th, Thursday, March 13th, and Thursday, May 8th.

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New Plaque Program Celebrated

Photo by Jennifer Wells



Robert Woods is the first neighbor in the Stockade to have a plaque with both logos: the Historical Society's logo that are on most plaques, and now also the Stockade Association's new logo.

On October 7 neighbors gathered to celebrate Robert's new plaque at 207 North Ferry Street. Over the past few years he has worked hard in restoring the house and wanted a plaque as a crowning touch telling of its date, owner and architectural style. His other renovated house at 208 North Ferry also has a new plaque. Stroll by and see how beautiful they look.

You can have a plaque for your home, too. The Stockade Association will provide an incentive of \$75 towards the approximate cost of \$175. Neighbors research their house (the librarian at the Historical Society is very helpful) and complete an application, which is on the Stockade website: www.historicstockade.com. Houses must be at least 100 years old. For more information, please call Dale Miller, 381-6189.

Photo by Chris Waldron



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Thank you, Artur, for Skybars! He takes your suggestions seriously!

Arthur Wachala keeps a little list! Just let him know what items you would like to have at Arthur's Market and he'll do his best to get them there.

I requested my favorite childhood candy bar, the Skybar, and in a few days he had a whole box of them on the shelf!

Try them - they're delicious!

- Sylvie Briber

Know What's Happening!

Stay up-to-date on neighborhood news, projects, and events 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, 381-6189 if you have problems.

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Sunday morning worship

8:00 Fresh Faith service in Poling Chapel

10:00 Traditional service in main sanctuary

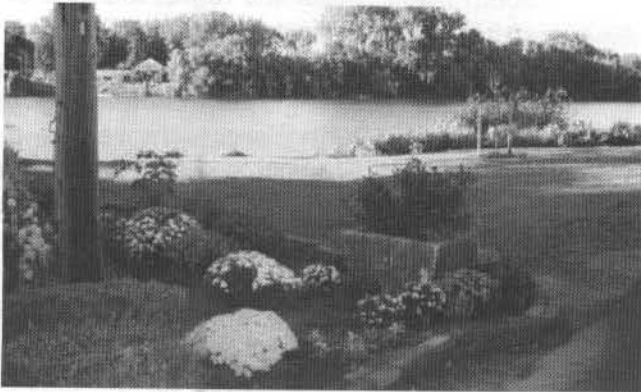


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A Beautiful Walkabout Day! -Please see back page for a color photo scrapbook!

Photo by Jennifer Wells



The 48th Walkabout was held on a beautiful autumn day Sept. 29, 2007. Our streets were filled with costumed characters from the past, strolling minstrels, history lovers and those curious to see how we in the Stockade live. This year there were three carriages running all day and on each trip through the park every seat was filled. Visitors enjoyed the music of the Union College Jazz Ensemble, The String Dusters, Gary VanSlyke on banjo and penny whistle singing the old ballads and Ralph Brooks on accordion. Those attending the Waterfront Faire were treated to a variety of foods from Perecca's, Earthly Delights and several other food vendors. Tables on the esplanade and along the beautiful Mohawk River were filled throughout the day. Our visitors were treated to nine open houses this year, three churches and several other destinations. The KidsZone hosted by the YWCA was busy with many other activities to the delight of kids as well as parents. Our county and city historian, Don Rittner, put together a wonderful group of colonial craftsmen who demonstrated their crafts to both children and adults with a lively crowd surrounding them all afternoon. The Heritage Foundation once again this year held a Preservation Faire with contractors and artisans giving advice on restoration of historic homes. Many crafts were available for purchase and all vendors that I spoke to were very happy with the turnout in the park.

All in all the day was a huge success thanks to our home owners, committee chairs, volunteers, sponsors and all who worked so hard the past ten months to once again put on this unique and exciting day.

Our ticket booklet and guide was donated this year by a new ad agency that recently moved to State St., The Mossey Group. If you are interested in having one of these works of art as a keepsake, please call me at 370-4324 as there were a few left.

Your Stockade Association Board will be looking for new leadership for the 2008 Walkabout. If you are interested in this exciting and challenging opportunity please contact your board president, Joe Fava.

- Lyn Gordon



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Congratulations to the Schneiderwinds, Harold, Debbie and kids (Sarah, Charlie and Sammy)
 "The little ones help dad do the polishing . . . they are just the right height!"

National Winner!!!!

1968 Continental Mark III
Lincoln/Ford Trophy - Best of Class
Lincoln & Continental Owners Club Eastern National Meet
Cherry Hill, N.J., June 2007
 The car scored 99 points as a very low mileage totally original car. They have been members of the club for 30 years. Harold has restored several Continentals during that time. Debbie and Harold have added to the Walkabout in the past putting together an Antique Car Show for the event.

Old Faces, New Places

South Ferry Street will regret the loss of Edith Alois and her charmed vintage shop. (She'll be gone November first.)

The good news is - a new shop in a new location. With any luck Edith plans to move into a great store at the corner of Franklin and Jay Streets opposite City Hall well before Christmas. It's a great location and very convenient when running errands downtown.

She'll miss her friends in the Stockade and sends her love and thanks for their patronage.

Keep eyes and ears open for announcements on Edith's grand opening. This writer and the entire neighborhood wish her the very very best.

- Catherine de Salle

Garden Group News

The following Stockaders were elected to offices for the Garden Group at a recent meeting:

- President - Carol DeLaMarter
- Vice President - Ellen Desmond
- Secretary - Meredith Anker
- Treasurer - Greg Sauer

It was decided that the 2008 **Secret Garden Tour** would be held **June 20-21, 2008**.

Anyone wishing to volunteer for any Garden Group activities should contact Carol DeLaMarter at CDelam6533@aol.com.

- Beverly Elander

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Sunday Stroller - "Caught Being Good"

Have you been looking around the Stockade Streets these autumn days? If so, you will notice some wonderful work neighbors are doing.

Dorothy Dietrich of North Street tells us -

Markie Fisher worked all day Saturday and Sunday, October 13 and 14th on the brick work and slate sidewalk of Liz Gemmette's house at 19 Front Street. The work is superbly beautiful as are all the stunning Stockade gardens and stone work that he has designed and built for our neighborhood.

A youngish Ingersoll man carts stone and soil to Riverside Park and proceeds to dig out and fill depressions in grass and ground made by animals. How many pedestrian's falls has he averted? I am on the alert to ask his name, his noble name. Not a one-time thing, but on-going. He also drops pink flowers on Emily's marker. He says, "Because she likes pink."

To add to Dorothy's remarks, Markie Fisher also did Robin White's stone sidewalk at 21 Front, and has jobs to do other Stockade sidewalks. He knows where to get the blue stone, too. Need help with your sidewalk? He's your man - 878-5816.

Steve Kowalski paints everything - not only works of art but also houses. He just finished an elaborate paint job for Jennifer and Larry Schmitt's house at 11 Front Street - a beautiful shade called Lichen Green.

If you know that your neighbors have done some good work to the outside of their house or front yard, let me know so we can celebrate them!

- Sylvie Briber, 377-0469



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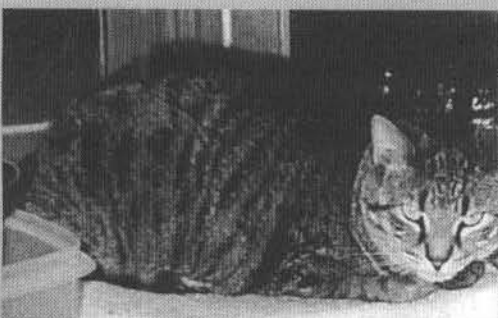


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Stockade Neighborhood Watch Minutes Sept. 25, 2007

Attendance: Chris Waldron (Green St.), Sylvie and Bob Briber (Wash. Ave.), Carol DeLaMarter (Wash. Ave.), Diane DeMeo (Union St.) Valerie Ackerman (Union St.), Lydia Eis (Front St.), Adrian Tieman (Union St.) Lt. Brian Barnes (SPD), Beverly Elander (Green St.)

1. Carol DeLaMarter announced that Stockade frisbees and magnets, as well as Macy's coupons for Oct. 13 will be sold at a table during the Waterfront Faire at Riverside Park on Sept. 29. She hopes that the sales might generate some revenue for the purchase of light bulbs for front porches in the Stockade.

2. Beverly reported that Linda and her walking group continue to be out in the neighborhood, keeping their eyes and ears open, and reporting suspicious activity to the SPD.

3. The informational portion of the meeting on "**Sex Offenders/Protecting Our Children**" was presented by Lt. Brian Barnes. While there was too much information to reproduce all of it here, several points have direct relevance to us in the Stockade:

• Four of the 210 sex offenders county-wide live in the Stockade. This information can be accessed via the Sex Offender Registry on the SPD website: http://www.schenectadypd.com/offender_reg.php. To which Lt. Barnes adds:

By law, I cannot tell you about any Level 1 Registered Sex Offenders who live in the Stockade. Because of this, the statement "four of the 210 sex offenders county wide live in the Stockade" is incorrect (it does not include the Level 1 offenders). I would simply state that there are four (Level 2 or Level 3) Registered Sex Offenders who live in the Stockade. Level 3 Sex Offenders are those who are deemed to be at a "high risk" of re-offending. Level 2 SO's are those who are deemed to be at a "moderate risk" of re-offending.

• Statistically, one out of 4 girls will be abused by the age of 16. One out of an average of 7 boys will become victims.

• The act is called abuse when there is an imbalance in power. When children are involved, age creates that difference in power.

• The difference between a child molester (a person who commits the crime if the child is accessible) and a pedophile (someone who focuses on and seeks out children) was discussed. Pedophiles often acquire 400 victims.

• Sex offenders use "grooming" to manipulate children into vulnerable situations. They may offer treats, claim there are "no rules," and promise "secrecy." Later, playing mind-games and making threats are used.

• The effects of abuse on children can be devastating: it can create isolation, guilt, truancy, poor grades in school, substance abuse, eating disorders, hostility, anger, inability to maintain jobs/relationships and even suicide. Lt. Barnes adds:

When speaking on the effects on children, I would also add that these often follow the child throughout their adulthood especially if they are not dealt with at an early age.

• Part of the solution involves keeping lines of communication with children open and non-judgmental, and calling authorities if child abuse is suspected (SPD 911 for emergencies, 382-5265 for non-emergencies, or the Child Protective Services hotline 1-800-342-3720). And lastly, Lt. Barnes reminds us:

I would also follow this up with the main point of my presentation - That about 90% of children who are abused will be abused by someone that they know and trust (parents, siblings, extended family, family friends, neighbors, babysitters, teachers, coaches, scout leaders or religious leaders).

A huge thank-you to Diane DeMeo for allowing us to meet in her lovely backyard by candlelight in front of the fire, and to all who brought desserts.

The next meeting of the Stockade Neighborhood Watch is Tuesday, **October 23, 7pm** at 232 Union Street. Topic to be announced.

-Beverly Elander

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. Informal
(7:00 P.M. in July & August)

Phone: 518-374-4546
Fax: 518-374-2505
Email: fpcsrmin@nycap.rr.com
Website: www.1stpreschurch.org

Wednesday Evening

6:00 Family Dinner (Sept.-May)
7:00 Prayer Meeting
Youth groups

You are always welcome!



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2007-2008**

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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, N. Church and Union; and Slick's, corner of S. Ferry and Liberty. The *Spy* is also on the web at: www.historicstockade.com

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

Please Be A Good Neighbor:

For safety, keep your front and back 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 ASAP**
- **Help frail neighbors clean their front yards**
- **Pick up dog poops (in plastic bags)**

Important Numbers

- **Stockade Officer - Kevin Green 378-6536**
4pm- midnight Mon. - Fri.
- **Emergency 911**
Non-emergencies 382-5265
- **Police Emergency 382-5200**
- **Trash Not Picked up**
Solid waste - 386-2225
hotline 382-5144
- **Code Enforcement -382-5050**
- **Waste Collection Schedule & Recycling 382-5144**

The Stockade Spy

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Founded in 1961
Founder
James D. J. Schmitt
Designer
Werner L. Feibes
First Editor
Barrie C. Covert

November Waste Collection Dates

Thurs., Nov. 1 **Mon., Nov. 19**
Fri., Nov. 9 **Wed., Nov. 28**

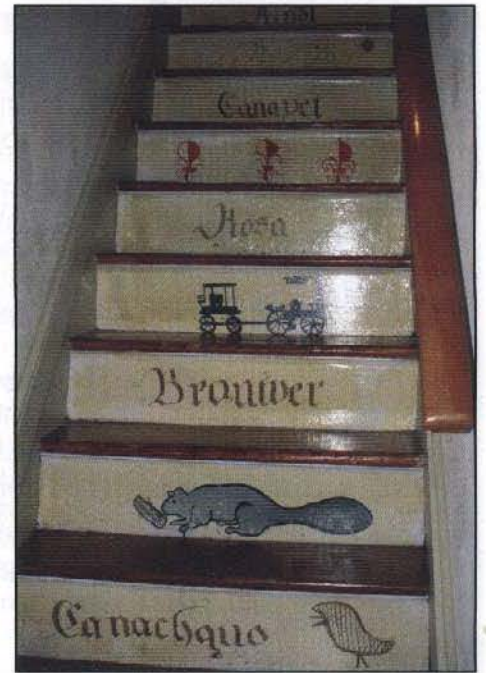
Waste Collection starts at 6:15 AM. Please put waste on the curb only **after 2 PM** the day before. To help keep our neighborhood beautiful, please remove trash cans ASAP from the sidewalk when emptied.

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

Wonderful Walkabout!



Lawrence, surrounded by beauty, celebrates the event. *Photo - J. Wells*



Staircase at Katy & Fred Kindl's, 14 North Church, records their house genealogy. *Photo by Jennifer Wells.*

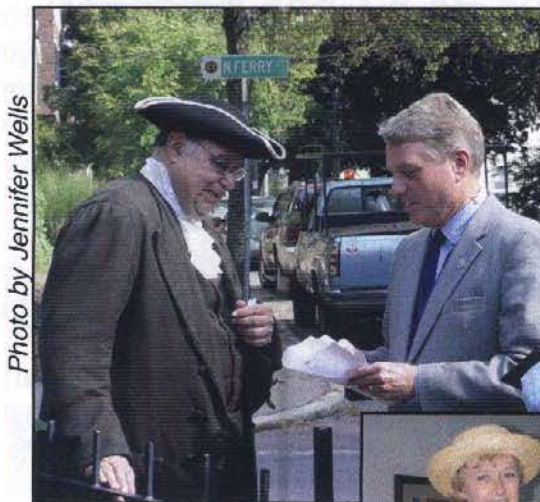


Photo by Jennifer Wells

Our first mayor, Governor Joseph Yates (Frank Taormina) and our present Mayor, Brian Stratton, banter about the "good ole days" and nowadays!



Photo by Jennifer Wells

Artisans selling their creations at The Waterfront Faire.

Left, Dot Valachovic and Phyllis Ochs enjoy dressing up to be guides at 1 Cucumber Alley.

Photo by Jennifer Wells



Standing on the steps of the English Garden B & B, 205 Union St.: Officer Chris Waldron, center, supervises soldiers Patrick, left, and James, right, Spear. (young men are the grandsons of Gin Bohn, innkeeper.)

Photo by Beverly Elander



Victoriana in all its splendor! Home of Debbie and Harold Schneiderwind, 203 Union Street. *Photo by Jennifer Wells*