

January 2011 Published by The Stockade Association historicstockade.com Vol. 52 No. 5

2011 Schenectady Colonial Festival - February 4-13 The Stockade at the Center of Attention!

With coordination through the City of Schenectady Heritage Area Schenectady/Nijkerk Council, the Community Archaeology Program of Schenectady County Community College, the Schenectady County Historical Society, the Stockade Association and First Reformed Church of Schenectady are several of the community organizations planning the range of activities to take place during Schenectady's 2011 Colonial Festival.



Schenectady Town by Len Tantillo, 2005

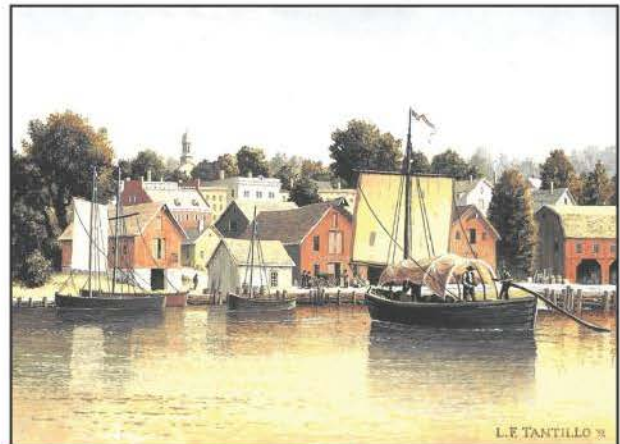
Artist Len Tantillo, renowned for his vivid illustrations of historic sites and themes throughout the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys, will be a featured presence. Mr. Tantillo will begin his participation in the Colonial Festival at 11:15am, Sunday, February 6, with a presentation at the Heritage Sunday First Forum at First Reformed Church, Assembly Hall/Poling Chapel. He will speak on how he recreates historical scenes, specifically how he painted *Schenectady Town, View from Cowhorn Creek, circa 1690*, which has Schenectady's and that congregation's first church building at its center.

The next event with Tantillo will be at the Annual Colonial Festival Dinner at the Glen Sanders Mansion, Tuesday, February 8, the 321st anniversary of the 1690 Schenectady Massacre by the French and Indians.

At 4:00pm there will be a special opportunity to meet and discuss with Len Tantillo ways Schenectady might further develop its historical legacy. A showing of Tantillo's works, maps of early Schenectady, and the latest findings of the Community Archaeology Program excavations in Schenectady's Stockade Historic District, will provide starting points for conversation pursuing clarity on key facts (*or are they myths?*) in Schenectady's history.

A 6:00pm Social Hour will begin the Dinner. Attendees may view an exhibit of works by Len Tantillo and items mentioned above. Prints by Tantillo may be purchased throughout the evening. Following a colonial themed dinner, Tantillo will present a select grouping of his well-known historical illustrations of life and places in early upstate New York, *Historical Painting: Schenectady Works and Others*.

Combination tickets for Conversation with Tantillo and the Colonial Festival Dinner begin at \$60. Opportunities for individual and corporate sponsorship are available. Separate tickets are \$20 for the pre-dinner event and \$50 for the dinner. Proceeds will support the annual exchange program of the Schenectady/Nijkerk Council and our community interest in furthering the history of the founding of Schenectady. *(continued on page 3)*



Schenectady Harbor by Len Tantillo

Stockade Association General Meetings - see page 5

First Reformed Church All Thursdays 7pm **Jan. 13** March 10 May 12

**Feb. Spy Deadline
Jan. 15**

Neighborhood News

Stockade website: www.historicstockade.com

Stockade Association November Board Meeting Summary

The Stockade Association Board met on November 2, 2010, 7:00pm at the First Reformed Church.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Finance** - no report
- **Historic Preservation and Zoning** - no report. Jessica Gerlarden volunteered to chair this Committee
- **Infrastructure Maintenance** - no report
- **Membership** - Carol DeLaMarter, on behalf of George Marshall, presented the report. As of Oct. 24, we have 62 members. We expect that the membership will continue to grow through the year.
- **Events** - Carol provided a written report summarizing events activities for 2010 and looking forward to next year. Carol made a motion that the Stockade Association provide \$300 to the Schenectady Colonial Society for the cost of Len Tantillo to speak at their upcoming dinner event. Diane seconded the motion. Steve Boese requested that the Association provide information to the membership regarding this event. The motion was approved. Carol also stated that we now need a Chair for the Walkabout Committee.
- **Nominating** - Carol stated that the Committee is looking to recruit candidates to fill Board vacancies.
- **Garden Group** - no report.
- **Committee of Safety** - Beverly Elander reported that Sylvie Briber volunteered to purchase CFL light bulbs to be handed out for free to Stockade neighbors at the November general membership meeting. Neighbors will be encouraged to use these bulbs (which cost very little to light) on their front and back porches and entryways in order to help illuminate the neighborhood at night. Beverly reported that Linda M, with help of Valerie Ackerman has drafted a letter to neighborhood landlord regarding reported problems at that residence. She received a response and has developed a good rapport with the building owner. The letter could be used as a model for other similar situations. Beverly also noted that the Stockade Association will be assisting in the Stockade-athon for the first time in a long time. The Association will support the Stockade-athon by providing volunteers to assist with managing traffic at four sites where the streets will be closed. Beverly, Linda M., and Jessica have already volunteered.

Old Business

At the September General Membership meeting, Jack McDonald raised certain concerns about Quality of Life issues in the neighborhood and volunteered to assist the Association in working to address these concerns. Mary and Jack are now working on organizing a meeting to discuss next steps.

New Business

At its most recent meeting, the Stockade general membership approved a proposal to support reuse of the Gillette House as a breakfast/bagel shop. Mary stated that this statement of support did not address a possible drive-thru window, an element of this proposal that has generated some neighborhood discussion recently. Mary further noted that the Stockade Association statement is only a statement of support, and that approval of the project will require a use variance by the City Zoning Board. Mary emphasized that any concerned neighbor may address the Zoning Board regarding this proposal.

Stockade Association General Meeting

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Members present joined Gary McCarthy, President, Schenectady City Council in a discussion about what City Council members learned about problem properties and how some of these issues are being addressed. City's goal is to stabilize and protect neighborhoods in order to create value and add to tax rolls. Police and codes need to be directed at problem properties and tenants. Recognizes need for new landlords to learn how to be landlord and avoid problems. Comments by group included use of Rental Property Association, make it easier for property owners to invest in historic properties and revisit burden of lead paint abatement on good property stewards. President McCarthy encourages neighborhood to work with problem properties by trying positive approach to owners and incentives to improve exteriors.

President McCarthy updated the group on Riverside park proposal. No dock decision at this time but feels locating a large dock as discussed in park inappropriate. A small craft access for residents may be possible and locating larger dock elsewhere (Gateway Landing) is still being discussed.

(continued on page 3)

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General membership meeting called to Order by President Mary D'Alessandro at 8:20pm.

Secretary's Report of September 16, 2010 General Meeting was approved as published in *The Stockade Spy*.

Treasurer's Report - of balances in checking, Smith Barney and Soiree park project was given.

President welcomed new neighbor Susannah Hand from North College Street.

During the Open Forum residents raised the following concerns:

Alco and Galesi Group development

YMCA still has residents that will need to be housed. Would like to see the Stockade Association in the communication loop. Question whether Y will be able to reapply for housing grants. Some discussion that Y does not want to sponsor housing program. Gloria announced that 242 Union Street has been sold.

Request an update at next meeting on Future Projects list presented in spring 2010. Connie Colangelo updated group on early plans for Colonial Festival in February. Also reminded those interested in traveling to the Netherlands as part of Nijkerk exchange in the spring, 2011 to see announcement in *Spy*.

Concern over vagrant living in carport of Liberty St. business. Difficult to remove them but think owner should remove trash and belongings that are being stored there.

Some discussion of *Gazette* article about Arthur's. Question whether a co-op model might be pursued.

Jack McDonald updated group on coffee shop proposal for Gillette house. He will request use variance at January BZA meeting and has withdrawn any drive-thru option after listening to neighbors. Design plans will be submitted to Historic Commission and Planning Board.

Committee Reports:

Diane DeMeo reports Nominating Committee still looking for nominations for Treasurer to fit term to May, 2011 and will be looking for new Board members for May, 2011.

Carol DeLaMarter presented the 2010-2011 Operating Budget approved by the Stockade Association board at October board meeting. Expenses for the year included costs for producing *The Spy* and an increase amount for neighborhood investment. Income reflects proceeds from 2010 Walkabout, *Spy* Advertising, Membership and donations. Copies of the budget were distributed to members at the meeting and are available.

George Marshall Membership Committee announced a

need for someone to prepare Welcome baskets for new homeowners and work with Lidia Eis to distribute.

Events Committee - Connie Colangelo and Jennifer Wells reminded group of Christmas tree lighting and gathering after at First Reformed Church. Volunteers needed to decorate the tree on Nov. 29 and on Dec. 5th to set up and clean-up after. Jack McDonald has donated the tree and family has been asked to light the tree. Need 4 bell ringers 4-5pm.

Committee of Safety, chair Beverly Elander, announced Committee's Neighborhood Watch campaign to get neighbors to keep porch lights on. Energy efficient bulbs are available for anyone who requests them from Beverly or NW members. A model outreach letter has been developed for NW to use for property owners where recurring safety issues are observed.

New Business

The family of Ernie Cohen would like to make Gift of a bench in the park or to replace broken at 101 Front Street. This would require Historic Commission approval. Group was in support of either but should come up with consistent design/style for future bench installations.

Announcements and Volunteer opportunities:

Volunteers to bring refreshments for General meetings are needed. Next General Meeting dates:

Jan. 13 March 10 May 12 (Annual Meeting)
* * * * * * *

(Colonial Festival continued from page 1)

A steering committee led by Maureen Gebert, Director of the Schenectady Heritage Area, is active in planning these and other Colonial Festival events. For more information contact Maureen at 382-5147 or mgeberty09@yahoo.com, Laura Linder at 882-6866 or lleelinder@gmail.com, or Joe Doolittle, Chair of the Dinner at 384-1700 or aldenjoe@nycapp.rr.com.

Watch for the Festival's Calendar of Events and Dinner invitations in your mailboxes, on the Stockade Bulletin Board, and on websites of participating organizations. Note other listings here in *The Spy*, such as, Schenectady County Historical Society's programs each Saturday and the SCCC Community Archaeology Program's exhibit at the Downtown County Public Library.

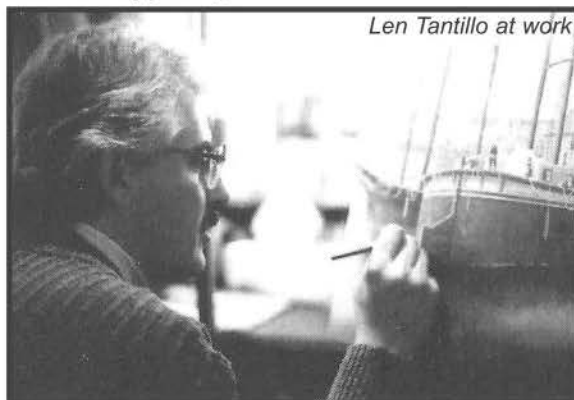
All Colonial Festival Events are open to anyone interested in attending. Find Colonial Festival signs or greeters at event locations directing you to rooms where programs are happening.

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Stockade Neighborhood Association General

Membership Meeting

Thursday, January 13

The First Reformed Church - entrance on North Church Street

7:00 pm Refreshments and meet your neighbors

7:30 Program and General Meeting

Join us for a planning meeting outlining New Year resolutions for "This Old Neighborhood."

Stockade Association members approved a list of projects in the spring of 2009 and the Board has incorporated monies for some neighborhood investment into the 2010-2011 budget. Members will be asked to help prioritize projects and assist with action plans. Action requires volunteers to make it happen so join us as we get busy on projects that we all agree are important. Can't take on a big project? We still have small and one time tasks that are in need of a volunteer. Can you bring refreshments to a General meeting in January, March or May? Contact Diane DeMeo. Have you looked at the Historic Stockade website and have feedback or ideas on how to make it better for neighbors and visitors? We'd love to hear from you. See you at the meeting on January 13th.

The Stockade Association Membership 2010 - 2011

Membership: September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2011. \$15 per person, \$20 per household.
\$ _____

Name(s) Include all members with household membership:

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Business _____ e-mail _____ Date _____

Please make check payable to "**The Stockade Association**" Total Amount enclosed \$ _____
and mail to: Stockade Association Treasurer, Suite 100 32 Washington Avenue Schenectady, NY 12305



Historic St. George's Church

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Calendar In and Around the Stockade

SCCC Community Archaeology Courses Spring 2011 Semester

Interested in historic documents? Maps, deeds, local records? "Researching Documents in Archaeology," begins on January 20. Taught by Louise Basa, the course will include examples and research opportunities for students to participate in CAP's Stockade District studies. Course #10638, CFR 216-51; Fee: \$150; Dates: January 12 to March 31 (no class 3/17) 10 weeks, 6-9pm. Check for registration on www.sunysccc.edu or call, Non-Credit Courses 381-1315.

Also check out SCCC-CAP's new course in February: Industrial Archaeology (11001), taught by Tricia Shaw and our other Spring courses.

Schenectady County Historical Society 32 Washington Ave. 374-0263

Saturday, January 15, 1:30pm refreshments, 2pm Program. "**Mohican Influence on the Dutch**" presented by Shirley Dunn. How the Mohicans initiated the upriver fur trade; Mohican land ownership on the Mohawk River, and the development of a close relationship with Arendt Van Curler. Shirley Dunn is the author of several books on the Mohicans.

Saturday, January 29 1:00-2:00pm **Book Discussion: Clarissa Putman of Tribes Hill** (1950) by John Vrooman Librarian Katherine Chansky will lead discussion of Clarissa Putman and Sir John Johnson, Colonial Schenectady and the Civil War. The authors' photographs of historic sites in the Mohawk Valley will be on display.

Moon and River Cafe "The Little Cafe That Could"

115 South Ferry Street Music nightly at 8pm

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Tue. 1/4	Bill Healy - bluegrass jam
Thur. 1/6	Mark Baptiste - Oldies
Mon. 1/10	7pm Ukulele Nite
Wed. 1/12	Tom & Eileen - Oldies
Fri. 1/14	John & Erik - blues
Sat. 1/15	Northern Water Snake - new cello music w/guitars & piano
Mon. 1/17 7pm	Strum & Sing - open circle
Thur. 1/17	Running the River - folk & pop
Fri. 1/18	Out of the Bluegrass

Sign up for the Historic Stockade Yahoo Group

info on Stockade meetings, events, crime, politics, lost pets, snow & parking, etc. 1) Send a blank email to: HistoricStockade-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
2) When you get the confirmation email asking if you really want to join, just hit reply
3) Problems? Email: dalemiller33@hotmail.com
4) Please pass this info along to a friend/neighbor

"Almost Maine"

To Open Winter Season at The Playhouse

Jan. 28-30 & Feb. 2-6

Welcome to the small town of Almost, where love blooms, withers, and blooms again in the snowdrifts of northern Maine. Schenectady Civic Players will offer the-atregoers an early valentine of a quirky comedy which views love and relationships from nine different couples. The New York Times commented: ". . . a whimsical approach to the joys and perils of romance." The show will run January 28-30 and again from February 2-6. All tickets are \$15 and are available online at www.civicplayers.org or by calling 382-2081. The Playhouse is located right in the Stockade at 12 South Church Street.

Staged Reading Please join us for a performance of short plays by David Ives and Christopher Durang, including a spoof of "The Glass Menagerie" and a scientific experiment that puts three monkeys in a room with three typewriters. The free performance will take place on **Sunday, January 9 at 2:30pm** at The Playhouse.

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 •**Police Emergency 382-5200**
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 •**Code Enforcement -382-5050**
 •**Waste Collection Schedule & Recycling 382-5144 7:30-4**
 •**Animal Control Voicemail 382-5200 ext. 5655**

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- **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)**
- * **NO OPEN FIRES ARE PERMITTED**

January Waste Collection Dates

Mon. Jan. 3 & 10 Tues. Jan. 18 & 25

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. For full trash schedule email - cityofscheneectady.com/garbage.htm

The Stockade Spy

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