



January 1999

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Stockade Calendar

Stockade Association General Meeting

"The Metroplex"

Thursday, January 14
Schenectady County
Historical Society
32 Washington Ave.
7:00 PM Social
7:30 PM Program

SCCC Information Night

Wed., Jan. 6, 6-8 PM
78 Washington Ave.
Public invited, free event
Enrollment & admission
procedures, financial aid,
job placement, 36 career
degree, transfer
and certificate programs
Call 381-1366

"Fun, Games, and Dutch Customs" by Anneke Bull

Sat., Jan. 8
1:30 PM Social
2:00 PM Program
Historical Society

"Laura"

Schenectady Civic
Players, Jan. 29, 30, 31
& Feb. 3 - 7
17 South Church Street
Tickets, \$10
382-2081 (See page 2)

February Spy Deadline:
January 15

People of the Stockade: Bobbie Bowden

Bobbie Bowden is an artist, an actress, a screenwriter, a consultant and a visionary - who inspires people to be happy like children, to stand up for what makes the world right, and not to fear. She is also one of our most creative and vibrant neighbors in the Stockade.

Bobbie was born and raised in Schenectady, and remembers always thinking of the Stockade as a place where the most interesting people lived. Her family would showcase the Stockade to out-of-town guests, and Bobbie knew that if she were ever to live in Schenectady as an adult, it would be in this neighborhood. After graduating college, living in New York City, and traveling a broad, Bobbie became one of those interesting people in the Stockade.

She and her husband, Lee, moved into an apartment on the corner of College and Front Streets. In 1977, two years after their son, Seth, was

born, Bobbie and Lee purchased their present home on Cucumber Alley.

You'd almost miss her home if you weren't specifically looking for it at the end of the alley - and it would be a great loss. Bobbie has carefully created two streams to provide serene bubbling sounds in her front and back yards. Her home is filled with thoughtfully-placed, eclectic items and photographs of cherished moments and people - creating an environment as warm and inviting as Bobbie herself.



Bobbie Bowden's beautiful pastel collaborative work with Gary LaVallee was recently exhibited at the Albany Center Galleries

but it has only been in the past few years that she has turned a significant amount of attention to her artwork.

Bobbie's artwork also decorates her home, providing bursts of colorful, emotional and surreal landscapes that reveal new and different images even to her years after completion. Bobbie has been painting all of her life,

(Continued on page 2)

"How to Write and Sell Your Book"

Course at Schenectady County Community College
Mondays, Feb. 1 & 8, 7 - 9 PM
Call 381-1250 for information

"How to Write Fiction for Kids"

Course at Schenectady County Community College
Mondays, Feb. 22 & March 1, 7 - 9 PM

Murder Mystery at Civic Playhouse




"Laura" is a brilliant murder mystery. The classic movie version starred Clifton Webb, Gene Tierney, and Dana Andrews. When a special investigator falls in love with Laura, he knows he's in love with a phantom - she's dead. But is she? Or is it someone else? The real murderer? Scenes of high suspense, love intrigues, surprise plot twists. January 29, 30, 31 and Feb. 3 - 7. 12 South Church Street. Tickets \$10. Call 382-2081.

She describes her art as "my expression of a moment of consciousness in my emotional self." Her paintings, mostly acrylics and watercolors, are radiant, and clearly show the deep feeling and thoughtfulness that Bobbie conveys in each creation.

One of the most important messages Bobbie expresses in her life is "do not fear." She sees fear as one of the largest problems that people face - it keeps them from doing what they truly enjoy. Bobbie would tell you that it is most important to do whatever it is that makes your heart full, and especially to do whatever it is that makes you who you are. As expressed by many of her neighbors, I am glad that Bobbie Bowden is who she is, and I hope that she will continue to inspire others through her creativity and vision.

- Emily Curtis



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Established - 1888

THE STOCKADE ASSOCIATION



OF SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK, INC.
P. O. BOX 1007, SCHENECTADY, NY 12301

GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1999
32 Washington Ave.

7:00 P.M. SOCIAL 7:30 P.M. PROGRAM

AGENDA

- A. Minutes of November, 1998, General Meeting for approval
- B. Treasurer's Report
- C. **METROPLEX**

Our neighborhood is specifically included in the law creating the Schenectady Metroplex Authority. We will review the section of the law that covers the Stockade Historic District and the protections provided.

A discussion will follow to exchange ideas and come to a consensus on the following issues:

- What is the best way for our association to approach the Metroplex Authority?
- How should we define our ideas for a "Win/Win" scenario?
- What infrastructure improvements are appropriate?
- What limitations should we impose?
- Other ideas or concerns?

The Tree Lighting - One Great Party!

What a wonderful neighborhood party we had on December 6 celebrating the Tree Lighting. So many people helped to create a marvelous event.

Thanks to Susanna Sherwood and Shirley Burris, the hall was beautiful. Our local attorneys

Paul DeLorenzo, Gerry Gemmette, and Phil Rodriguez donated the tree. Bill and Priscilla (in spirit!) Gocha ran the kitchen; Jack Zegger coordinated all the details with the tree; Al Strack was our sound man; Emily Curtis took care of the luminaries, candles, etc.



At the tree lighting, Bob Farley spoke, Rev. Harold Reed gave the blessing, Bob Hayner MC'ed. Eric Eoff was our tree lighter and Sylvia Briber's group

"In Good Company" (Vesta Sager, Marjorie Jennings, and Donna Allard) supplied the music of Christmas.

At St. George's Hall, Bruce Holden's piano playing tempted many voices to join in

song and fun while neighbors had a chance to chat with each other and Mayor Al and his family.



Thanks to all the others who contributed their time and efforts including Lidia Pasamanick, Sue Mlodjanowski, Barbara and Greg Sauer, Bob Briber, Lisa and Brad

Fisher. Cookies, appetizers, and goodies by Eric Eoff, Bob and Janie Hayner, Trish and Steve Prior, Matthew Koral, Richard Brown, Dorothy Dietrich, Angela Stimpson, Jeanne Hawkey, Barbara and David Marhafer, Donna Hunt, Meridith Anker, and Ellen Desmond. Thanks

also to Greg Davenport, Joe Vitale, Tom Jacobs and Ray Vacca of the Parks Dept. and Tom Maddelone of St. George's.

- Helen and Al Giulietti

- Helen and Al Giulietti



**Stockade
Association
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Directors
1998-1999**

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Directors to 5/00

Paul Mlodzianowski
109 Union Street
382-7654

Bob Ritter
17 Ingersoll Avenue
393-3215

Jenniter Wells
17 Wash. Avenue
382-1471

STOCKADE ASSOCIATION NEWS

Jack Zegger, Corresponding Secretary

Board Meeting, December 1, 1998

Invited guests Robert Farley and Robert Serotta of the County Legislature, answered questions on the current Schenectady Metroplex Development Authority legislation, especially the protection of the Stockade Historic District. The Authority will officially start on January 1, 1999. In March 1998 the Board had voted to support Metroplex and be included in its boundaries.

Both legislators assured the Board that the Stockade is one of the great assets of Schenectady and that neither one would like to see any level of harm or neglect fall upon the neighborhood. For the reason, the Metroplex Authority was specifically mandated to abide by local planning and zoning ordinances (including Historic Commission review) and have jurisdiction over specific types of projects within the Stockade. Mr. Farley cited Section 2655, paragraph 12 as affording this protection. This section reads as follows: "Upon the resolution of a municipality, to avoid, and be exempt from zoning and/or other planning requirements, laws and/or regulations established, created or enacted by the

municipality;..." According to Mr. Farley, within the Stockade, the Metroplex Authority may only initiate infrastructure projects.

President Hayner announced that Meridith Anker of 4 Washington Avenue will be the new block representative coordinator replacing Jean Zegger as of January 1999. He also provided a handout on the results of a recent BRACE (Business Representatives Aligned for Community Enhancement) subcommittee meeting. Chairperson Helen Giulietti reported on plans for the tree lighting on December 6.

SECURITY TIPS

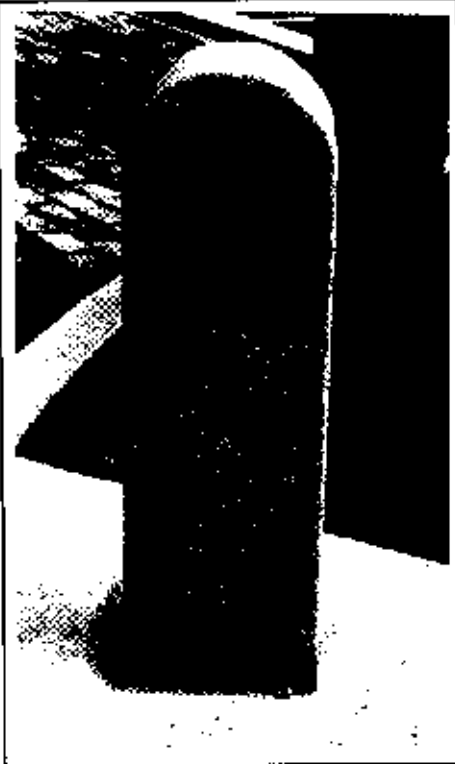
- Lock cars parked on the street and do not leave any visible valuables or packages inside.
- Provide well-lit entrances to resident and business properties.
- Secure basement windows; an iron grate over accessible basement windows should be considered.
- Report all incidents to the Police Department. Suspicious activities should also be noted.

Front Street resident, Karen Engle, will be the speaker at the Schenectady Museum's Brown Bag talk on Tuesday, January 5, at 12:15 PM. Karen, the Executive Director of the Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor Commission, will reflect on Schenectady's history and its relation to the heritage of the Mohawk Valley region. The lecture, entitled "Five Stories of the Mohawk Valley: Schenectady's Role in Regional Interpretation," will show how Schenectady, through its history, people and events, profoundly affected this region and beyond.

Ride the Trolley up the hill - it is at the Van Dyck fifteen minutes after the hour. Bring your own lunch; coffee and tea provided; 25 cents for the Trolley; \$1 donation for the talk.

**"Five Stories of
the Mohawk
Valley:
Schenectady's
Role in
Regional
Interpretation"**

STOCKADE STOPPER - BOLLARDS AT THE STOCKADE GATEWAY



Not that the term "Bollard" is on the tip of everyone's tongue these days, but you sure can get an eyeful of them when traveling around. They seem to pop up everywhere like mushrooms after a rain. Everyone's seen them but few know their name.

The name Bollard came from the French BOLE - a stem of a tree or an upright wooden post around which to take a turn with a rope when docking a boat. With such definite nautical origins, the name originally applied only to mooring posts used for tying boats and ships at piers and docks. Then, according to Medieval paintings and engravings, the bollard moved inland and its job description changed. Now it was used to restrict traffic, specifically horse pulled wheeled carriages. And its material changed from wood to stone. These stone sentinels are actually known to have stood guard around fountains and monuments in urban plazas since the 15th century.

Like everyone else in today's workplace, the contemporary bollard has been assigned a multiplicity of tasks. Now they are used to direct and separate traffic flow, to prevent vehicles from entering pedestrian zones, to promote a scale of references in open plazas, to define boundaries and spaces as well as to protect monuments. Protection is the big job of these guardian bollards of the Stockade Gateway. Take note of their careful placement in a radius, enhancing their job of announcing and celebrating the main event of the Gateway - the two great monuments.

And take particular note of their striking shape with arched tops, keeping in mind that bollards are traditionally a variety of shapes, round or square or flat topped cylinders or bell-shaped or even shaped to look like cannon barrels. A few actual cannon barrels from the Napoleonic era can still be found upended in London streets acting out a second life as a bollard. Recycling cannon barrels into bollards certainly provided double barrel protection!

- Jim Schmitt A.I.A.

The Stockade Spy

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Call Sylvia at 377-0469 if you would like to write an article or poem for *The Stockade Spy*.

ARTHUR'S

Public Market

is now closed
for exciting renovations!
See you in 1999!

T i d i n g s

Welcome to:

- JoAnn and Jack McDonald who recently moved to Washington Avenue. Jack has offices on South Church Street.
- Zoe Oxley and Dale Miller who also moved to Washington Avenue.

January Waste Collection Dates

At press time, these dates had not been determined.

Call Revitalization Office (382-5144) or City Hall

Do not put garbage out before 2:30 PM the previous day.