

# THE STOCKADE SPY



April 1976

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## A POSITIVE NEGATIVE FOR THE STOCKADE

The Stockade Association has granted their support to a film dealing with the historical as well as conventional aspects of the Stockade. Lee Bowden and Scott Gordon, co-producers of the film, have captured many of the unique intricacies of the community, including feature segments of the annual Walkabout, Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, and most recently the various restoration stages of the Teller House.

Mr. Bowden, producer-cinematographer, has been involved in professional film making for the past 10 years, and is currently residing at 158 Front Street, with an office in close proximity at 243 State Street. Mr. Bowden commended, "We feel that the best means to portray to others the Stockade as a *community* as well as a historical district of national interest, is on film. The fact that the residents, by their own concern and investments, have accomplished so much is overwhelming; and both Scott and I believe this film may be the impetus for other historical communities to look toward restoration."

Several scenes are scheduled for the upcoming weeks, specifically the Spring Clean-up, and Annual Tree Planting events. The first showing of the film is scheduled for the Bicentennial Celebration, and since the film is a non-profit project, various state and local foundations are being contacted in regards to cost covering funds. If you have any suggestions about houses, persons, points of interest, or funding possibilities for the film, call Lee Bowden at 374-4388.

## NEW PATRONS OF THE SPY

MR. & MRS. CHARLES W. LASKY

MRS. G. BRYAN SHANKLIN

MRS. W. A. KITTS

D. G. MILLER

We are pleased at the great response to our plea from the friends of the *SPY* from near and far.

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Please help the *SPY* — send your contribution to:

Box 1661, Schenectady, N.Y.

## BICENTENNIAL NEWS

### HEAR YE, HEAR YE:

The Bicentennial will be celebrated in Schenectady the week of July 18-24th. A series of events have been planned throughout the City, many of which will be held at Freedom Park in Scotia. It will be open from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., and the Bicentennial Barge will be tied up there on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Shuttle busses will run from designated parking areas to the Park, and from there to the Stockade, Union College, and The Schenectady Museum.

As the Historic District of our City, the Stockade has an important place in the celebration. Programs, slide shows, exhibits, tours, and other special events are being planned by the Stockade Association, Friends of the Stockade, the Villagers, and the churches.

If they are to succeed, we will need the help and cooperation of ALL who live in The Stockade. Plan to clean-up, fly flags, and display flower boxes. Plan to volunteer your help during that week. Let us celebrate with pride the 200th Anniversary of our Country.

The May issue of the *SPY* will bring you detailed information about those events and how they will operate within the Stockade.

## Project ROSE

Schenectady County Nutrition Program for the Elderly, sponsored by the Catholic Family Services, will serve lunch at the Ten Eyck Neighborhood Center, 375 Broadway. Lunch served at 12:15 p.m. Please call for reservations before 10 a.m. at 374-5511. Transportation is available.

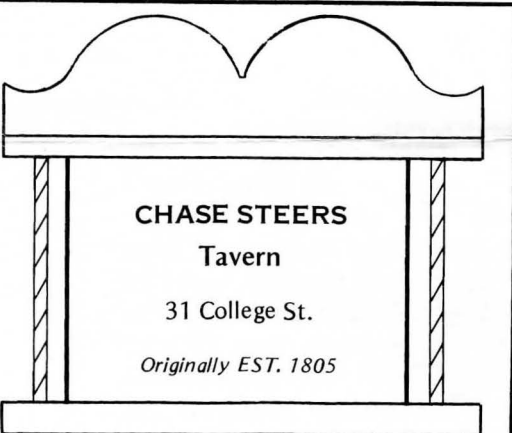


### THE STOCKADE SPY

Editor . . . . . Pat Davidsen  
Business . . . . . Lorna Strattner

#### Sponsors — Stockade Association

President . . . . . W. E. Davidsen, Jr.  
Vice President . . . . . John Barber  
Recording Secretary . . . . . Barbara Sauer  
Corres. Secretary . . . . . T. Gregory Sauer  
Treasurer . . . . . Robert George



#### The Stockade's only operating Old Tavern

open: 11:30 til 1 a.m.  
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Homemade Soup and Sandwiches  
11:30 — 2 p.m.  
Tuesday — Friday  
Closed all day Monday

#### Expenditures:

\$60 . . . . . SPY  
\$25 . . . . . Delivery of Notices

As of January 26, 1976:

\$3468 . . . . . General Account  
\$3436 . . . . . Heritage Fund

**Outdoor Photo Show:** Roger Kambour said that the producers of the Villagers' Art Show had offered to let the Schenectady Photographers Club put on a show on the tentative date of July 24th when the Barge is here.

**Tree Lighting:** Ned Van Heuval was congratulated for his job with the Christmas Tree Lighting and he in turn thanked Hank Binzer, Karl Miller, Jim Lane, Greg Sauer, Skip Merriam for the decorations, Robbie Stimson, Joe Fava, Hank Binzer for town criers, Father Kirby and St. George's, Rhoda Brown from the Union Presbyterian Church, and Greg Sauer as Santa.

**Tree Planting:** Jim Schmitt reminded everyone that spring was just around the corner and that trees could be purchased for \$25 and said to see him for more information.

**New Business:** Barbara Sauer was appointed to fill out the term of the previous Recording Secretary, Karen Lamont who has moved out of the Stockade.

**Real Estate:** Virginia Kambour unveiled her plans for condominiums on Cottage Row.

**Speaker:** Mr. Kelly from Niagara Mohawk showed a slide presentation on energy use.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

### TWO NEW SLIDE SHOWS

The Clearinghouse proudly announces the assembly of two new slide shows: "Our Environment" and "Bicentennial Green-Up Spruce-Up '76". Many of the slides in the two programs were taken by Claire Schmitt but many more were provided by such organizations as the Nature Conservancy, Cooperative Extension, the County Planning Dept., and by individuals as well. The shows include a tape-recorded discussion of the slides so that a coordinated program may be presented.

"Our Environment" explores environmental activities in Schenectady. Included are sites of land fills, sewage treatment, nature and historic preserves and bike trails. Actions by SCEAC, OAR and other private organizations are discussed and shown. There is also a free handout for everyone who sees the show: a list of contacts for the many environmental groups in the Capital District. The show lasts approximately 45 minutes.

The "Bicentennial Green-Up Spruce-Up '76" show explores specific examples of citizen action. The half hour show includes many suggestions for improving one's private property with plantings, ground cover, shrubs and trees. Also discussed are examples of public planting for civic improvement. The Bicentennial Commission has pledged to reimburse our expenses for this show. Both of these shows will be available in mid-February to groups who wish to keep themselves informed on the environmental scene in Schenectady. Call the Clearinghouse for your reservation now.

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 26, 1976

The meeting was called to order by President Davidsen at 7:50 p.m.

#### Treasurers Report:

As of November 24, 1975:  
\$2951 . . . . . General Account  
\$3436 . . . . . Heritage Fund

#### Income:

Dues . . . . . \$500  
Walls Have Ears . . . . . \$ 61  
Christmas Cards . . . . . \$141  
Wine and Cheese  
Party advanced . . . . . \$100  
Returned . . . . . \$100

### FRIENDS OF THE STOCKADE

STOCKADE TOURS  
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Call: Mrs. J. W. Joyce — 393-8622  
Mrs. Robert George — 393-3290



STOCKADE ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 1, 1976

President Davidsen called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. He stated that the sole purpose of this special meeting was a discussion of the Association's plans for the Bicentennial. He asked for suggestions and opinions from the General Membership.

**Stockade Film:** Lee Bowden of 158 Front Street, a motion picture producer, was introduced by President Davidsen. Mr. Bowden would like to make a documentary film about the Stockade and Historic Schenectady. The film would be ten minutes long and cost \$10,000. The Stockade Association would not be asked to fund the film, but merely to sponsor it with a token donation so that grants from the New York State Council on the Arts and other businesses could be obtained.

Mr. Bowden showed clips of two films that he made, both of which had historical themes. He stated that the Stockade film would be meant for people who live outside the area, and could be used for years to come. He feels that this side of the river needs an attraction for the Bicentennial Festival, and it is his hope that the film could be shown continuously in the Park under a tent. Mr. Bowden stated that he will undertake all the necessary paperwork to apply for the grants.

Mrs. Shanklin moved that the Stockade Association apply to the Council on the Arts for as much money as is available for the production of the film. Mrs. van der Bogert seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Van Voast suggested that when applying to the Council on the Arts, it be stated that the Stockade Association won the Council's first Award of Achievement in New York State.

Mr. Schmitt inquired as to the liability of the Association if the funding fails. Mr. Bowden stated that the burden would fall on the producer.

**Other Stockade Groups' Plans:** President Davidsen reported on the activities of Friends of the Stockade, First Reformed Church and The Villagers' Art Show Committee.

The Friends of the Stockade will have a continuous slide show presented at the Historical Society. On Friday of Bicentennial Week, one hour walking tours will be given. Regular tours by arrangement will be given during the rest of the week.

First Reformed Church will have a Kermis, a Stockade House and Garden Tour, and tours of their Church scheduled during the week. Box lunches and an outdoor cafe serving fast foods and cold beverages will be offered.

The Villagers' Committee is planning a photographic exhibit in the Park.

**Self-Walking Tour Brochure:** Werner Feibes reported on a walking tour brochure that the American Institute of Architects is making available to the various area Chambers of Commerce. Mr. Feibes will design the Schenectady brochure which will comprise Union College and the Stockade area. The Schenectady County Chamber of Commerce will underwrite the costs and will distribute the booklet free of charge.

**Bicentennial Memento Booklet:** President Davidsen introduced Gary Moore, President of the Schenectady Jaycees. The Jaycees will make available to the Association, on a consignment basis, a booklet entitled *Our American Heritage*. It contains six documents pertinent to American history. The booklet will sell for \$3.00 per copy and will be offered to the Association at a discounted price. After some discussion concerning its lack of pertinence to the Stockade history and the difficulty of selling the booklet, the President stated that he will present the matter to the Board for a decision.

**Bike Path:** Mrs. Brown inquired about the Bike Path and arrangements made for bicyclists during Festival Week. President Davidsen reported that a bicycle lane will be established on the Western Gateway Bridge and that bike racks will be provided at the Scotia side and at the YWCA. He stated that the Bike Path situation is not clear.

**The Park:** Mrs. Reuter stated that she feels it is unwise to attract people to this area when the Park is in such disgraceful condition. Mr. Van Voast suggested another clean-up day. Mr. Barber cautioned that although this has been successful in the past, a precedent should not be set for the City. He suggested that Mr. Leonard may be more agreeable to the new City Council and that the Association should now be making its opinions known to the new City Council members.

Mr. Schmitt suggested that a letter of condolence be sent to the family of Mr. Robert Dirks, former Manager of Community Relations for GE. He stated that Mr. Dirks had given much help to the Association in the past. The President directed the Secretary to do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara P. Sauer  
Recording Secretary

SCHOOL NEWS

Card Party at Riverside School

May 6 at 7:30 P.M.


*Fashions by Peacock Gallery*

*Door Prizes — Refreshments*

Admission \$1.00

Tickets available at Riverside School

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## TIDINGS

A "Women in Sports" buffet luncheon was held at the Schenectady YWCA on March 23rd. The changing perspectives of women in sports today was the theme of the event.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Moore of Front Street have returned from a trip to Hilton Head, S.C. and Hendersonville, N.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Martin Ricard of Front Street have announced the engagement of their daughter, Anne Faille, to Jonathon Leonard Cassidy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Cassidy of Parkwood Blvd.

Miss Ricard, an alumna of Linton High School, was awarded a degree of bachelor of arts, magna cum laude, from Union College. She is a Wintertur Fellow at the University of Delaware, Newark, Del., and will be a candidate for a degree of master of arts in May. Mr. Cassidy, also a Linton High School graduate, is an alumnus of Rochester Institute of Technology. He is employed in Oxford, Pa. A July wedding is being planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Caputo entertained at a theater party at Cohoes Music Hall followed by an after theater supper at the Van Dyck.

Dr. Susan Jane Staffa, author of a soon-to-be-published book entitled "Convergence of Contrast: The Case of Egypt," spoke on that subject at a noon meeting of the Table Talks on World Affairs, Schenectady County Public Library.

From 1965 to 1966, Dr. Staffa did research on the social history of Cairo, Egypt, under auspices of the American Research Center in Cairo. Susan served as assistant professor of anthropology at the American University at Cairo between 1968 and 1975.

Mrs. Clifford Vrooman has returned to her home on Washington Ave. after spending the winter months with Mrs. James Elrod in Atlanta, Ga., Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey Thomas Jr. in St. Louis, Mo., and Mrs. Charles Rice in Rye.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Colangelo have returned from a trip to Puerto Rico.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas N. Bonner and Marvin W. Friedman entertained at dinner at Mr. Friedman's home on Union Street before the Red Cross Charity Ball at the Edison Club.

The Schenectady YMCA will host the 1976 United States Volleyball Championships. It is the largest nationals of any national tournament in the world. This exciting event will be held at Union College the third week of May 1976.

Mrs. James C. Cooper of Washington Ave. has returned from a visit with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cooper in Miami, Florida, where she attended a surprise 50th birthday party for Mr. Cooper.

The Schenectady Art Society held a members' show during April in the Great Hall at St. George's Episcopal Church.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Mac Donald Stanton Jr. of Union Street have returned from a visit with Mrs. Stanton's mother, Mrs. Walter J. Kelly in Birmingham, Ala., and with Mr. and Mrs. Snooky Lanson in Nashville, Tenn.

Good Tidings indeed! The Bicentennial Barge will be tied up at Scotia's new beautiful riverside park on July 21, 22, and 23. Watch for news of the many exciting events that will be taking place not only on the Scotia side of the river but also in your own Stockade.

Miss Heidi Harlow is spending her spring vacation, from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, with her parents, Prof. and Mrs. H. Gilbert Harlow of Front Street.

The Schenectady Civic Playhouse was the location for an early American dinner on March 14th. In keeping with the theme of the production of "American Primitive," the committee that prepared the production supper chose to use as many authentic early New England recipes as possible.

The research included reading biographies of both John and Abigail Adams to gain insight into foods they preferred. Various cookbooks of early America were consulted and many recipes were made and sampled.

Do you have Tidings? Please call Mary van der Bogert at 372-0280.

