

# THE STOCKADE SPY



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## COME LIGHT AND CAROL CHRISTMAS IN

The annual Stockade Christmas tree lighting will take place Friday evening December 17 at 7:30 P.M. At 7 P.M. there will be a carolling procession through the streets of the Stockade. We invite everyone to join in when we come past your house. The procession will end up at the Indian for the ceremony. This year the service will be given by members of the First Reformed Church.

Marilyn Taggart has taken responsibility for all the planning and preparation necessary for both the carolling and the lighting ceremony. Barrie Cohen is her able assistant. She is uniquely fitted for this since Barrie's mother-in-law originated the tree lighting tradition. John Barber is taking care of the raising and lighting of the tree. These people will be aiding him with both strength and experience: Ted Kurtz, Hank Binzer, Horace VanVoast, Jim Lane, Jim Duggan, Bill BeVier, Fred Heitkamp and Bill Davidsen.

Will Taggart is attempting to modernize our present lighting system.

Our Christmas tree this year was donated by the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Schenectady and was given to the city by Walter Englert of 16 Warden Road, Scotia. The city removed it from his backyard.

We hope that everyone will join in and make this year's ceremony a successful and meaningful one. See you on the 17th!

## CHRISTMAS IS A WORLD OF TOYS

If you would like the spirit of Christmas to last all year, collect toys. The choices and the enjoyment are limitless. Toys represent history more truly than a dozen text books, and through them remote ancestors live as real, every day people. My grandfather's cast-iron bulldog bank has occupied an honored place on the hearth for as many years as I can remember, with his one good eye and slack jaw (busted spring). He will stay as he is, for any repair or repainting will remove him from the realm of collectibles and halve his \$100. value. The ingenuity of the makers of the mechanical banks (animated when a penny is deposited) was amazing, so why aren't there several others on the hearth, keeping the bulldog company? The Fall issue of the **Antique Trader Price Guide to Antiques** provides the answer — Teddy and the Bear, \$175.; Speaking Dog, \$185.; Punch and Judy, \$235.; Stump Speaker, \$287.; Jonah and the Whale, \$300.; Monkey with Coconut, \$325.; Kiltie, \$600.

All antique toys are not expensive, so I thought maybe I'd try marbles to augment the large swirl and the sulphide dog sitting on my bureau. Sulphides at \$17.50 to \$35. each and swirls at \$1. to \$20. each, depending on size, means I'll only take a few as I go along. Clay, clay glazed by the Bennington Pottery and aggies do nothing for me, and since marble, cobalt, onyx, jasper and jade ones are too rare, I guess I'll keep hunting for another specific category to collect.

There is a gaiety to the tin toys: dishes, furniture, animals, boats, trains and horse-drawn vehicles, many operated by clockwork. If it's tin, I choose the miniature shops: shoemaker, butcher, grocer, hatter, fruiterer, milliner, saddler, and blacksmith.

Iron toys, brightly painted, mostly pull-type, some mechanized, are a good subject for a man, but the farm equipment, circus wagons, fire engines, carriages, tallyhos, and trains have been too highly reproduced for me. Cap pistols and clapper heads in the form of a monkey, Punch and Judy or clown and mule do not hold my interest. Having no fear of the pointing finger, I even con-

sidered paper dolls since those by Rafael Tuck would tie in with my post cards, but I passed them up. If I were a carpenter or furniture refinisher, the scarce children's furniture might be just the thing as it was a miniature edition of its period. Hobby horses on floor rockers or springs are not for me because of space problems. Wooden toys, both handmade (whittled) and manufactured in endless variety: Noah's Ark with a full complement of animals all in pairs and naval vessels firing wooden shells are still under consideration. I'd like at least one of the articulas, moving toys displaying people at work or play, the movement derived from a fly-wheel which spins at a great rate in an up draft of warm air. I have a couple of squeak toys which are mounted on a small bellows and are supposed to imitate the call of a bird, beast or fowl, but I'd like a couple more that work. Tumbling toys from China that flip down a flight of steps; roly polys with weighted round bottoms, and balls of hard gum rubber are for others. Sunday toys, Scripture-associated, and moralization board games are too specialized for me.

Christmas tree gardens; villages, trains and track, small boats on a pond and a mill with water pouring over the wheel are too seasonal.

And last, but definitely not least, dolls I'll just read about.

All these categories would make delightful collectors' items whether they be handmade, unusual and rare or manufactured after 1830, resulting in novelty, quality and quantity. I still have not made up my mind, but in hunting I have learned that the price of toys results from a combination of rarity, design, workmanship, condition and current fads; also that unmarked toys of the 19th Century can be identified from catalogues of toy manufacturers and mail-order houses which in themselves are worth collecting.

It may be a product of the tinsmith, the small iron foundry, the potter, the pewterer or the glassmaker, but there is some category in antique toys to interest everyone, including one for me and one for you.





## THE STOCKADE SPY

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## THE PRESIDENT:

It is again that time when considerable attention is given to reflecting on another year — soon to become history and when much thought is given to things we hope to see during a new year.

In a neighborhood which has seen 300 years come and go it is interesting to speculate on how things have remained the same while undergoing constant change. For example, in Clement Moore's classic, "A Visit From Saint Nicholas" written 150 years ago, the Santa Claus as we know him was not created until some 40 years after the poem first appeared. And contemporary treatment of Thomas Nast's original drawings which establish the popular notions of Santa is rather rude from time to time.

Our holiday customs are derived from myriad sources ranging from our Dutch heritage to rites with roots in pagan custom. Contributions by the English, northern and eastern Europeans and many others are woven into the fabric of the present interpretation of the holiday season. Whether we focus our attention on the tree, the carols, the traditional foods, or decorations, the essential elements which make this time of the year so extremely significant are the sharing and the remembering of friends. Regardless of how we spend our holiday, may we all make this a time for reflection as well as take a moment to plan a new and better year in which we all may become better neighbors.

—T. Kurtz

## Après Le Festin

## l'Entremets Léger

Burnt Almond Cream is an English custard dessert—perfect for the holidays because it is very rich and very classy. It also has the advantage of being something you can make well in advance and keep on hand in the refrigerator for unexpected guests or formal entertaining.

To serve 8, you need:

2 oz. slivered almonds	8 tablespoons sugar
1 quart heavy cream	1 tablespoon vanilla extract
8 egg yolks	

Using a wire whisk beat the egg yolks and 2 tablespoons of the sugar together in a mixing bowl until the yolks are thick and pale yellow (about 4 minutes).

Preheat the oven to 350°. Heat the cream in a 2 quart saucepan until small bubbles form around the edge of the pan. Be careful! The burning doesn't come until later. Pour the cream slowly into the egg yolks beating constantly with the whisk. Add the vanilla extract. Pour the mixture into a souffle or other baking dish.

The dish should be placed in a pan of water so that it reaches at least half way up the side of the dish. Bake 45-50 minutes. Test it by inserting a knife in the center of the cream. If it comes out clean, you've reached the first plateau. Now, sit down and have a drink—you've done enough for a while.

Cool the dish to room temperature, then refrigerate for 4-5 hours.

Next comes the fun. Preheat broiler for 15 minutes. Sprinkle 3 tablespoons of sugar evenly over the top of the cream, then the almonds, and the remaining sugar so that the almonds are barely covered. Place the dish under the broiler about 3 inches from the flame. Keep a watchful eye so that the top gets brown and crusty but not black. It should only take 4-5 minutes. Chill thoroughly until ready to serve.

One last note: please resist that great American habit of flaming everything in sight. It may be a great way to get rid of cheap brandy but serving this dessert flambe would most assuredly send the ghost of Christmas past into an absolute frenzy.

—Ed Dennison

## CHRISTMAS TEN

## MONTHS OF THE YEAR

On the 25th of December Riverside School is empty—dark and silent. But the spirit of Christmas has been at Riverside since the opening of school and will be with us to its very closing in June. Riverside has some very exciting and unique Christmas presents this year.

As part of the 'free choice' special Activities program, Dr. Louis Navias directed a group of boys in the study of rocks and minerals. Mrs. Augusta Blanchard, of the Stockade Knit and Weave Shop, taught knitting to a small class of girls and contributed yarn and needles to the project. Miss Mary Antoine of the Historical Society guided a group of children in a Study of "Olden Days." Mr. Robert Staron of the Schenectady Museum Staff was host to a group in the planetarium of the Museum for four afternoons of Astronomy.

Just recently some students at the school completed four sessions in the study and appreciation of the Harpsichord with Mr. James Lazenby of St. George's Church. Mrs. Angela Calabria, a native of Ecuador, brought the fun of folk dancing to the music room of Riverside. The Vocational Education Department of Linton High School was host to a group of boys and girls for a glimpse of the world of work. The girls had their hair washed and set in cosmetology; the boys helped build the house in building trades and wore welder's helmets to watch the welding class.

Exciting presents to be opened later in the year are Photography at Nott Terrace, Television with Joan Lapp, Gardening etc.

Many parents in the Riverside Community have helped to make Christmas ten months of the year. Darlene Duggan, Jessica Squires, and Peggy Farry ran the Election Day Bake Sale to raise money in support of these special Christmas presents. The room mothers have assisted at the Bake Sale as well as class parties. Mrs. Barrie Cohen recruited the following mothers who are serving in this capacity, Dolores Mlodzianowski, Audrey Taylor, Charlotte Dinkleman, Molly DePietro, Alice Fatato, Connie Colangelo, Peggy Farry and Mrs. Thomas Gabis. Mrs. Philomena Kautner, Emily Ruchalski, Ann BeVier, Joan Lapp, and Virginia Kambour are willing chauffeurs. (Our Library volunteers (more are needed) are Karen Lamont, Mrs. DePietro, Kambour, Squires, and Dinkleman.)

Officers of the Riverside School Association are President: Virginia Kambour, Vice-President: William BeVier, Secretary: Connie Leet, Treasurer: Dennis Wienk, Faculty Representative: Ruppert Pratt, President ExOfficio: James Duggan. Mr. Donald Young, Principal.

## "SIX BELTS OF WAMPUM" GUIDE BOOK REPRINTED

Just in time for a Christmas Stocking! "Six Belts of Wampum," the charming guide book to the Stockade first issued in November of 1964, has been reprinted by the Stockade Association. Originally conceived by Joan Lapp and Elizabeth Quinn, the book's authors and artists, however, are children aged 8 to 12 years whose work was selected during a county wide competition for original material. The result of this effort was a 45 page, red and black covered pam-

phlet, assembled as a "walking tour" beginning at the Indian—designed to appeal to all ages.

The distribution and sale of the book will be handled by the Riverside School Association. All profits will be used in special projects for Riverside Children. The price is \$1.00. Copies may be obtained at Arthur's Market and the Historical Society. Mail Orders will be filled by writing to "Six Belts of Wampum" 29½ Front St., Schenectady, New York

## New Neighbors:

Rick and Marjorie Hansen of 232 Green Street. Rick is with G.E. and Marjorie is a high school business teacher. They have moved here from Hickory, North Carolina.

David and Lynn Simpson of 19 Ingersoll Avenue. David is with G.E. and Lynn is a teacher in Scotia-Glenville. The Simpsons were at Van Antwerp Village.

We welcome both couples to the Stockade and hope they enjoy living in our community.

Peter George and his wife, Kathy, made a trip to the Stockade during November. They visited Peter's parents, Ann and Bob George of 7 Front St. Peter is still stationed at Norfolk but expects to receive his discharge from the Navy soon.

Sally George, also of 7 Front St., a student at Russell Sage, has been elected to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. Congratulations!

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lewis of North Church Street have returned from a vacation in Milan, Venice, Florence, and Mallorca.

Mrs. Elizabeth Perkins of Front St. was named a delegate-at-large to the White House Conference on Aging, which was held on Dec. 2 at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Maria and John Todd of 38 College St. and family, will be leaving Dec. 21st for a Christmas vacation in Heidelberg, Germany. This will be Maria's first Christmas visit with her family in many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Dawson Van Eps of 119 Front St. have left for a stay in Florida. On their way, they will stop in Nebraska to see relatives, and then they will spend Christmas in Sun City Center, Florida.

Mrs. W. A. Kitts of 19 Front St. had many visitors over the Thanksgiving weekend. Her grandson, Willard Kitts, who comes from Albuquerque, New Mexico, was on vacation from Amherst College. Granddaughters Suzanne Sherwood, a student at George Washington University, and Fredrika Sherwood, a student at American University, were here to visit their parents, Lt. Col. and Mrs. J. M. Sherwood who are spending the winter at 19 Front St.

Evelyn Androkavitz, 5 Ingersoll Avenue, is recuperating from a broken shoulder suffered in a freak accident. Hope the outlook is good!

Dr. Charles Lasky, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lasky of 19 Ingersoll Avenue, is now a resident at Albany Medical Center. He is currently residing in Delmar.

The New York State Women's Legislative Forum held its orientation meeting Nov. 30 in the Red Room with a reception following in the Executive Mansion. Marianne Brown, who is the Stockade Association's delegate to the Forum, and Kay Shanklin attended and report that an "informative" time was had by all. If anyone is interested in attending the Forum please contact Marianne or Kay.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Clough of 35 Front St. had their children and grandchildren visit over the Thanksgiving holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Philip Alspach and sons Philip Jr., Bruce, and David from Lafayette, Pa. were here along with Barbara Edwards from Boston.

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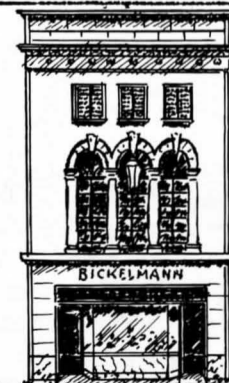


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# STOCKADE ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

The President called the meeting to order at 8:10 P.M.

Mrs. Shanklin made a motion that the minutes of the September meeting be accepted as published in the Spy. It was seconded and passed.

Treasurer Will Taggart reported that we have \$678.72 in the Savings Account and \$126.86 in the checking account, with our share of the Walkabout still unpaid to us. On motion of Louis Navias, seconded by Jessica Squires, the Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

**Tree Lighting** — The President announced that it would take place on Friday night, December 17. The Chairman will be John Barber, who was not present, but needs people to help trim the tree.

**Six Belts of Wampum**—The President announced that we will pay for reprinting 1000 copies and that Riverside School Association will handle the distribution, with all profits going to them. He introduced Mrs. Virginia Kambour, the President of the Riverside School Association.

Mrs. Kambour said that she is planning to sell the book at \$1 per copy this time and that many of the stores have agreed to sell the book at no profit to them. She plans publicity on it in the papers — in particular, she mentioned that one of the biggest contributors to it is now 18; she was 11 when she worked on it. She will have her picture in the paper with Mrs. Lapp.

**Vandalism**—This is a problem in the Stockade. There was discussion as to what women could do to avoid being mugged. Discussed were: a flashlight with a siren on it belonging to Mrs. Shanklin who said it came from the Alexander, (Va.) Sales Corp.; the police car at Arthurs in the afternoon; the best thing to scream if you are attacked, which is "Fire" and not "Rape" according to the articles; the advantages of women carrying lighted cigarettes; the advice of the police in New York City who suggested silver whistles and winding keys around fingers to make brass knuckles. President Kurtz asked that anyone with suggestions on the problem get in touch with him or with any member of the Board.

**The New Corresponding Secretary** — President Kurtz introduced Mrs. Guy Graves who will replace, as Corresponding Secretary, Sara Silverstein.

**House Resolution 802** — President Kurtz announced that this would amend the Internal Revenue laws to allow the deduction of up to \$1000 per year for repairs and improvements to a household's property — nothing for capital expenditures, of course. Write your representative in Congress or Senator Stratton to urge passage.

**Traffic** — Chairman Kay Shanklin reported that the Mayor-elect Mr. Duci is much concerned and is very much interested in patterns. He will make himself available to us before January on the subject. He incidentally is not adverse to using the Federal Government international signs. If anyone is interested in meeting with Mr. Duci or particularly in traffic, please let Mrs. Shanklin know.

The meeting adjourned for the showing of two films, THE HEART OF THE CITY and THE CITY, HEAVEN OR HELL, both by Lewis Mumford of Union College.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vi Putnam, Recording Secretary,



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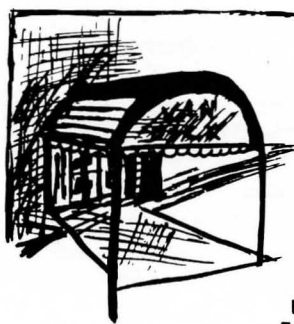


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