

THE STOCKADE ★ SPY



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SEASON'S GREETINGS

STOCKADE SPY

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Letter from the President:

We were very fortunate to have such a good evening for the tree lighting and it was a very successful party due to the generosity of St. Georges, Mike the Indian, Gordon, Mr. Predco and so many volunteers who helped put it all together, especially Jimmy Starchinski, who made the beautiful wreaths we had as door prizes. I would like to clarify one thing. We have never, nor were we charging admission but, merely asking for contributions to help offset the expenses incurred. Though we never recoup the monies spent we do this because we feel that the funds we raise through the membership drive, The Walkabout etc. are solely for the purposes set out in our charter; to preserve and enhance the quality of our historic district. I apologize for any confusion on this point.

Please read Kathy's letter about the membership drive and respond to it. We need each and everyone of you to take an active interest in preserving our unique neighborhood. This rostrum gives us a credibility and allows us to know who out there is concerned about the battles we fight to preserve and enhance the quality of life we enjoy here.

May you have a Happy and Healthful New Year.

Susan Bokan

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING ON THE 27th

Harold Hagerman Jr. will be the guest speaker at our January meeting that starts at 7 P.M. with a social hour. The meeting commences at 8 P.M. at the Schenectady Historic Museum on Washington Ave. He will discuss the environment quality bond act and how it might apply to various proposals concerning the Stockade. He will present slides sharing with us the agonies and ecstasies of various existing projects and will answer any of your questions about specific applications of this state money. He works for the NYS Department of Parks and Recreation and is responsible for the administration of grant programs. He is professionally as well as personally involved in historic preservation, since to quote him, he is "currently (and forever) restoring an 1880's home in Saratoga".

Please come and enjoy his expertise as whatever eventually happens with our urban cultural park is likely to have a considerable impact on our neighborhood.

ROBBERIES!

I have been in close contact with patrolman Roy Edwardson who has been the first at the scene of most of our recent robberies, and investigator Ron McClosky, Telephone No. 4-12 PM 382-5247. Robberies in November were bad enough but in December there have already been 15 in our neighborhood. The vast majority of these have happened in the day time. The perpetrator has even returned to the same residences! A possible suspect according to 2 witnesses, is a white male, medium build and height with very distinctive, well kept, wavy dark, collar length hair. He is well spoken and neat in appearance in his twenties. When encountered he claims to be hunting for a freind or a lost black lab dog. Usual entry is thru a rear window in a secluded spot.

If you see anyone fitting this description or anyone who appears out of place please call the police. They need your help.

Basic security of dead bolt locks, pins in your windows and operation I.D. would have foiled most of these robberies. Don't put it off!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

There has been a 5 fold increase in robberies in our neighborhood in the past month in the Stockade affecting virtually every street. We must stop this, and not become known to the criminal elements as easy pickings. Mostly all of these were easily preventable, there were no broken doors or windows, you need to become educated to protect yourself. We have recruited new folks to help with operation I.D. that allows police to return stolen property to you because they can prove it's yours. Also to see that all first floor windows become hard to enter with the help of only two nails. The police can't do it alone! And remember it will be your loss. Please call Martin Manley in the evenings at 381-6784 or me at 377-5551 and tighten up your safety. Following is a letter from Martin.

Susan Bokan

**PROTECT YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY
 JOIN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH.**

- 1) Membership in the watch is free, and you can choose your own level of participation.
- 2) The program is supervised by the Schenectady Police Department through the Police Community Service Center.
- 3) Learn how to protect your home from break-ins with proper security precautions.
- 4) Help your police department by serving as "eyes and ears" in the reporting of any possible crime observed.
- 5) If neighbors look out for one another we can all work together to make our neighborhood a difficult place for burglars to operate in.

Martin Manley

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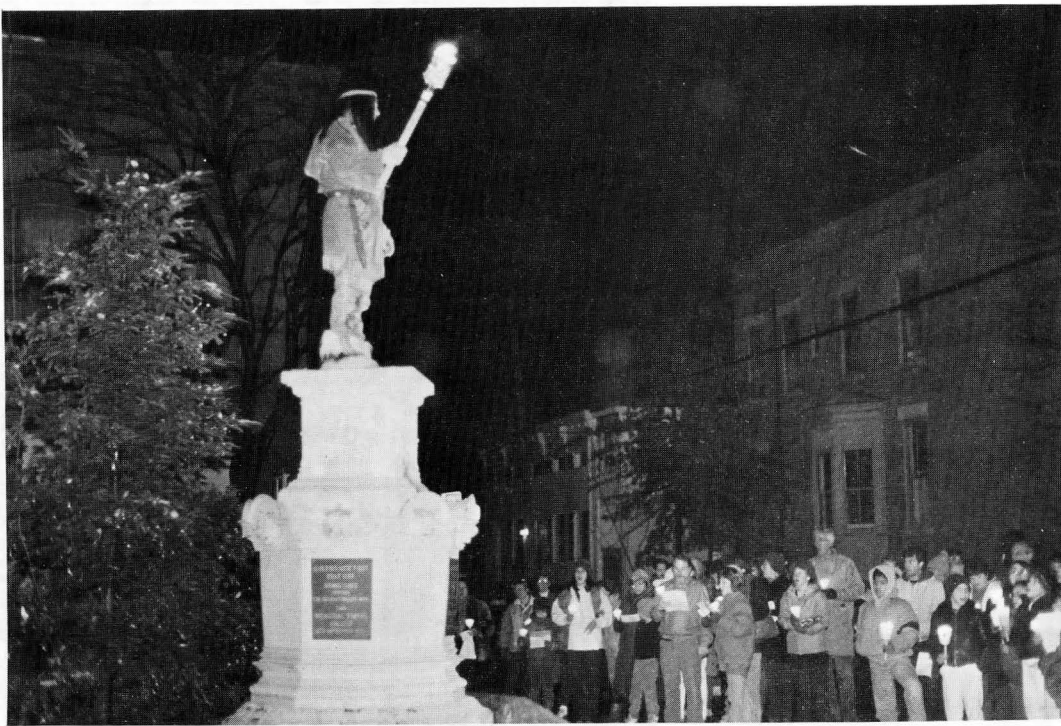
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A CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Some of us are very lucky and have a neighbor like Mike Fall who always knows when garbage day is. All I have to do is look out the window and I know what to do. I kind of hate to share this information since it will end the sense of popularity I feel when friends call and ask "Is it garbage day?" But there are lots of folks in our neighborhood who aren't as fortunate and often get confused due to city holidays, resulting in trash being out as much as a weekend early, so here goes. It ends up being ravaged by wandering dogs and spread all over. Please cut out this schedule and refer to it when making that weighty decision. It would be most helpful if we all tried, even when inconvenient, to wait as late as possible the night before, or even better, to keep our past treasures secure till the appointed morning. Here is a list of the Stockade garbage pick-up days for 1988.

THURS.	Dec. 31	WED.	June 29
FRI.	Jan. 8	THURS.	July 7
FRI.	Jan. 15	THURS.	July 14
MON.	Jan. 25	THURS.	July 21
MON.	Feb. 1	THURS.	July 28
MON.	Feb. 8	THURS.	Aug. 4
TUES.	Feb. 16	THURS.	Aug. 11
TUES.	Feb. 23	THURS.	Aug. 18
TUES.	March 1	THURS.	Aug. 25
TUES.	March 8	THURS.	Sept. 1
TUES.	March 15	FRI.	Sept. 9
TUES.	March 22	FRI.	Sept. 16
TUES.	March 29	FRI.	Sept. 23
TUES.	April 5	FRI.	Sept. 30
TUES.	April 12	FRI.	Oct. 7
TUES.	April 19	MON.	Oct. 17
TUES.	April 26	MON.	Oct. 24
TUES.	May 3	MON.	Oct. 31
TUES.	May 10	MON.	Nov. 7
TUES.	May 17	WED.	Nov. 16
TUES.	May 24	WED.	Nov. 23
WED.	June 1	FRI.	Dec. 2
WED.	June 8	FRI.	Dec. 9
WED.	June 15	FRI.	Dec. 16
WED.	June 22	FRI.	Dec. 23



COLONIAL FESTIVAL

In lieu of sponsoring the dinner dance for the Colonial Festival this year, the Stockade Association is sponsoring and guiding a tour of Schenectady City Hall. This beautiful building with marble stairs and rotunda is one of Schenectady's treasures.

Please join us for the tour, refreshments, and entertainment. Featured will be Laurie Farrell and Rich Wilcox of South Church St. singing Colonial songs. Colonial or square dancers, 4th Grade Elmer Avenue School, - teacher Gail Kelleiter Choral Reading "Schenectady," and 4th Grade Howe School - teacher Katy Guarnier. Those of us hosting in Colonial costume, as of this date, will be:

Susan Bokan, Emily Farrell, Marilyn Fisher, Ann George, Kathy Johnson, Fred and Katy Kindl, Peg King, Lisa and Mike Rooney.

We hope more of you would like to join us in guiding this lovely tour.

Please set aside Sunday, February 7th from 1 to 4 P.M. for a fine afternoon in this beautiful building.

The week prior to the open house at City Hall will be filled with Colonial Festival activities -The Tundra Trot, a horse procession, Schenectady Symphony, a cross country ski race in Central Park, Colonial Craft exhibits at Carl Company, a Colonial Ball and Dinner at Union College, programs at the library and the YWCA, programs at the schools, the Mayor's annual ride on horseback to Albany plus much more. Watch our local papers for details!

Emily Farrell, Chairman

Ann George, Fred Kindl - Committee

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TIDINGS

Only a few days more and we can put away our overheated credit cards and concentrate on the real matter at hand -- A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

'Tis the time for much merriment as well as my tidings so I'll jolly well get to the good stuff...

When St. George slew the dragon centuries ago, little did he know that a church by the same name would celebrate one -- our beloved Fr. Frederick McQuade was duly feted to mark the thirtieth anniversary of his ordination. After a splendid and moving ceremony celebrated by Fr. Vang and Bishop Ball (of the Albany diocese) everyone enjoyed good food and company in the Great Hall. A "fiery" time was had by all.

And St. George's remains the talk of the town ... a big YAY and a grateful sigh of relief is extended by all the Mothers in the Stockade to St. George's on the re-opening of their nursery school. Being the aunt of a wild and wooly two year old, I do understand this. Enjoy ladies! Further thanks are in order to Father Brian Laffler and his family who have been very instrumental in introducing many family and children-oriented activities at St. George's.

This is always a busy month for all of us, but for those moving, busy doesn't really do justice to what one has to endure. For Kathy Brodie, Bill Zwicker and their daughter Portia who have just moved to Union St., it's almost over. Also new to the Stockade are the Krauses, who have recently moved to Front St. Welcome to the neighborhood! And it's welcome back to a former Stockadian, Mary Beale, who recently returned from Nantucket to make Church St. home.

Pat and Hank Binzer, sadly to say, are leaving us for a new home in Albany. We thank them for their support of many Stockade activities in the past, and wish them the very best.

A standing ovation is in order for Susan Bokan, who once again orchestrated a huge turnout for the Christmas tree lighting. Our tree this year was truly a community effort... Susan selected it, Gordon Moppert chopped it down, anyone who happened by and chose to do so got to help decorate it, Fr. Vang blessed it, Mark Christy lit it, and we've all been enjoying it ever since. Special thanks are also in order for Al Strack, who was so "enlightening." After the lighting, everyone shared good food and fun at the Great Hall.

Another standing ovation to my very own Grandmother, Mrs. Don Mohr, who recently celebrated her birthday -- once again. She's 25.

Ruth Harvey, spy par excellence, also celebrated a birthday recently. Ruth is home again after spending three wonderful weeks away visiting her daughters in Arizona and Massachusetts.

Our foremost and favorite landmark -- No, not Lawrence; ARTHUR, also just celebrated his birthday. How old is he? He's not telling but he claims to be younger than Lawrence.

Speaking of Lawrence, rumor has it he's been spotted "bronzing" on a beach in the Caribbean...

Congratulations to Arthur's butcher, Joe Fazzone, who has retired from his other job at GE --which is wonderful for all of us ... now he's got more time to spend on those wonderful, "cleaver" treats he cooks up. He's really a cut above the rest when it comes to food.

A special Stockade GET WELL SOON to Ann LeChance of Washington Ave. who is recuperating nicely from surgery, and to Peg Harrison, also of Washington Ave. Peg recently hurt her hip but is feeling much better. Adelaide and Gilbert Parker are mending nicely after their accident. We look forward to seeing all of you up and about soon.

Thanks again to all of you who take the time to let me know what's going on. My mailbox eagerly awaits any news that is best when it's shared. So...keep those cards and letters coming!

JAZZ AT THE VAN DYCK

by Tim Coakley

The Van Dyck, at 237 Union St., has long been an oasis for area jazz fans. Some of the world's greatest jazz musicians have played there, and it remains an attraction for both Schenectadians and out-of-towners. The Stockade club continues to provide jazz of various styles each weekend.

The January lineup will include guitarist Jack Fragomeni on New Year's Day and Jan. 2. Jack has played with most of the area's top musicians, as well as spending a few years on the New York City club scene. He has a new album out with bassist Steve LaSpina, which he'll be happy to sell you at the Van Dyck.

On Jan. 8 and 9, pianist Paul Mastriani will be at the Steinway. Paul is another area jazz veteran, who plays all styles from Dixieland to bebop and bossa nova. He's also written some pretty tunes, which he'll slip in during the course of the evening.

A special treat is in store on Sunday, Jan. 10, when the amazing Dave McKenna returns for a one-night engagement. Dave's many local appearances are almost always completely filled with his admirers, so it's advisable to make reservations early. Dave McKenna's series of albums on the Concord record label have made him world famous. The most telling tribute to his excellence came from the great Art Tatum during a Jazz at the Philharmonic tour, when he would come out of his dressing room during the Gene Krupa group's performance, with Dave on piano. "I love to hear this kid play," said Tatum.

On Jan. 15 and 16, if I may beat my own drum a bit, the Tim Coakley trio will be at the Van Dyck. Paul Mastriani will be back on piano, along with either Mike Flanagan or Eddie Green on bass. This rhythm section worked together this summer on some of the Jay Street Mall's Thursday night sessions. We're looking forward to playing indoors for a change.

The John Weiss trio, which surprised a lot of listeners with its breadth of repertoire during its last appearance, will be in on Jan. 22 and 23.

Rounding out the month will be Skip Parsons and the Riverboat Jazz Band, with its special blend of Dixieland and traditional jazz. Skip has been leading a band for over thirty years, and has built up a wide area following. Tom Scannell, cornet; Norm Pratt, trombone; Ernie Bellanger, Tuba; Gene Hutchinson, drums; and Helen Pratt doing some mellow vocals will bring January to a close.

So, for an evening of good jazz in a pleasant atmosphere, check out the Van Dyck. It's one of the few local places to hear good musicians having a ball. It deserves everyone's support. Besides, I'd like to get another gig.



TIDINGS

cont'd.

Finally, with a swish, swish of my merry pen, I wish to one and all of you a Very Happy Holiday Season. See you next time...

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