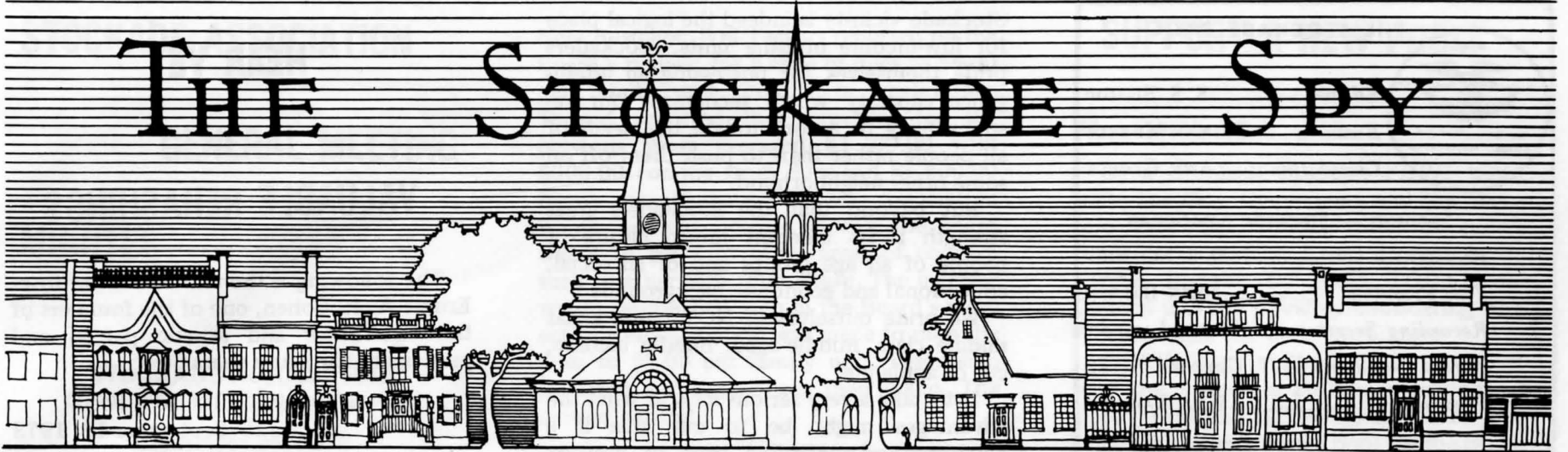


THE STOCKADE SPY



Vol. XIV, Number 3

Published by The Stockade Association

November 1973

SPECIAL TO THE STOCKADE SPY:

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of Nature and Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. . . . The history of the present King is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world. He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. He has forbidden his Governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance. . . . He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for

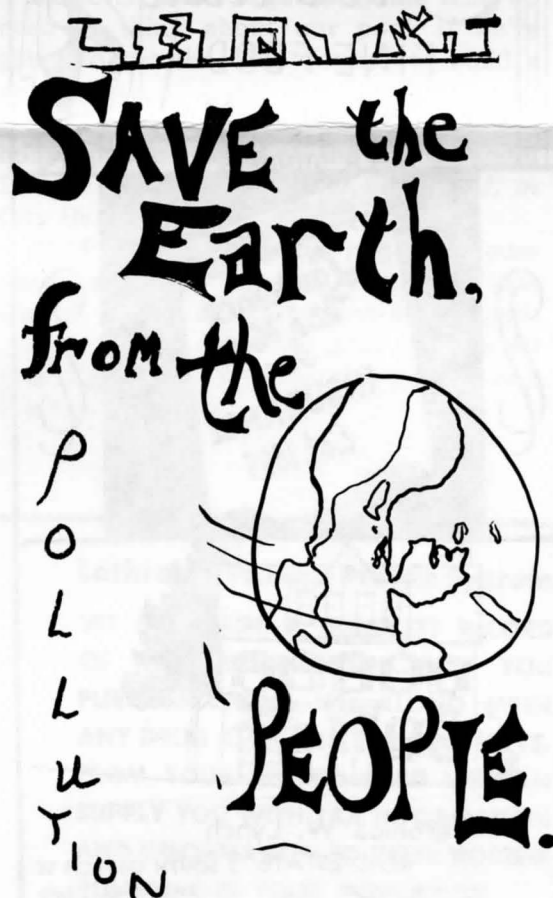
opposing with manly firmness his invasion on the rights of the people. . . . He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers. He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance. He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies without the consent of our legislatures. He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws. . . .

In every stage of these Oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. . . .



We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Editor's Note: The above statement was received today in our humble settlement by special dispatch from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, otherwise known from this day forth as the City of Brotherly Love. We hope all citizens of these colonies will read and affix their names to this text, and bear firmly in mind its very present implications.



SANDERS COLLECTION

COMES HOME TO ROOST

Glen-Sanders Collection


Alexander L. Glen was the first white man to settle north of the Mohawk River at Schenectady. This was in 1658, three years before the followers of Van Curler settled Schenectady. Glen called his new home "Nova Scotia", in honor of Scotland, the land of his birth. He built a stone house on the banks of the Mohawk, but this was ultimately damaged by floods. From the remains, a new house was built further back from the river.

Glen's youngest son, Major John A. Glen, built the east part of the house in 1713, and the house has remained exteriorly unchanged since then. Colonel Jacob Glen, the Major's son, inherited the entire estate. He died leaving one daughter, Deborah. She married John Sanders of Albany in 1739, thus linking the Glen and Sanders families. From that marriage, until 1963, the house remained in the Sanders family. Over the years, the heirs of John and Deborah Sanders married into the prominent families of New York: Van Rensselaer, Livingston, Ten Broeck, Elmen-dorf. From these marriages, many fine pieces of furniture, silver, glassware, ceramics, and paintings came into the Sanders family.

Upon the death of the last owner in 1960, the Glen-Sanders Collection went through many hands, finally coming to rest in Colonial Williamsburg. The mansion was sold a few years later. The house and collections represent one family's possessions, retained for eight generations.



(Continued on Page 4)

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THE PRESIDENT

Low income housing for the Stockade vicinity is being proposed by our City government. Stockaders, by nature enormously concerned with their neighborhood and its environment, are exploring the possibilities of this eventuality. To date the City Council has had no success in convincing or forcing other neighborhoods to accept low income housing developments — Why?

What have been the objections? What have been the reasons for the objections and how have these objections succeeded in its prevention?

What are the pros and cons of low income housing? Where exactly is the proposed new location, how big will it be and what will it look like? These and numerous other questions come immediately to mind and should quickly be answered by the City Administration.

It is unthinkable that this proposal could seriously have been made without preliminary discussion with the people and the organizations of this area. The City Fathers have repeatedly blundered onto the scene without first establishing adequate lines of communication with the people involved and affected. Their performance to date with respect to this latest proposal is the same old story.

Little more is publicly known than the following reference in the "Gazette":

October 22, 1973 "A letter signed by Mayor Frank J. Duci and Councilman Edward R. Eckert... has been sent to HUD officials, Sen. Jacob K. Javits and Rep. Samuel S. Stratton to inform them of Council's desire to fulfill a federal housing mandate in the location... the Front Street parcel, located near Monroe Street, is the same site Council had proposed in April."

October 24, 1973 "Councilman Edward R. Eckert, agency vice chairman, called for time to await a decision from the U.S. Department of HUD on alternate sites for the location of 62 mandated units of low-income housing. The agency is seeking to transfer reservations for construction of low-income units from sites on Campbell Avenue and Hamburg Street to "less controversial sites on... Front Street".

It is our remembrance that housing was first proposed in the Steinmetz Park area where it was rejected, then the Campbell Avenue and Hamburg Street areas where it was also rejected and now in the Front Street area where it is expected to be less controversial.

First reactions would indicate that the Stockade vicinity is indeed the logical place for low-income housing units. Stockaders pride themselves for possessing an intelligence capacity which recognizes our responsibility to accommodate the needs of all people rather than to push them off on some other neighborhood.

But beyond that the Stockade's great strength is its inherent mixed nature of people of all age groups and of all social, educational and economic backgrounds.

We pride ourselves in NOT being a flat middle class, middle-aged, middle income, cut of apple pie.

Let's take a very serious look at what the advantages might be to our area if a neighborhood-controlled type of housing could be developed.

The next Stockade Association meeting on Monday, 19 November at the Historical Society will deal with such a possibility. Hopefully we will be joined by all interested Stockaders and maybe even a City Official or two.

James D. J. Schmitt

TIDINGS...

will be back next month. We hope Betty Lane will soon be all well again. Will all people with Tidings please deliver them to 148 Front Street. Many Thanks.

Editor

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HEAR YE

VALUABLE REHASHINGS

The following is the text of a letter from Ernest A. R. Cohen, one of the founders of the Art Show and artistic patron and participant for many years now:

September 18, 1973

Mrs. Mary van Der Bogert
 Chairman, Villagers Art Show
 27 North Ferry Street
 Schenectady, New York 12305

Dear Mary:

I believe there will be little opposition to the conclusion that our 21st Art Show was a great event. I also venture to say that a great majority of the Stockaders will agree that this Annual Show has been a very substantial factor in putting the Stockade on the local map. This is not to diminish the impact of the Walkabout, the May Day Picnic, the Christmas Tree Lighting, the Snow Sculpture, and other events.

The reception hostess advises me that some 241 painters, sculptors, and craftsmen registered; that probably some 2500 items of fine arts were exhibited, and an untold number of miscellaneous craft items. It is anyone's guess as to how many people came to view the exhibits — it could have been anywhere between 5,000 and 7,000. Certainly it was the biggest crowd we've ever had.

But, I honestly question whether the Show was a good show, both from the point of the Exhibitors and the viewing Public. In my opinion, I would call it a big show, but much too large for anyone to enjoy in depth. Too much to see in such a short time — 1:30 to 6:00 P.M. One almost had to race the course with a quick glance here, a hurried look there, and still miss seeing a large percentage of painting, crafts, etc., much less to examine the exhibits leisurely and appreciatively.

What I am trying to say is that I think the Show has gone too far beyond the original concept of the founding Villagers' intentions. Too many paintings by individual painters, too much space absorbed by the spread of the craft exhibits, the ever widening scope of the whole show reaching far out up and down the side streets and alleyways.

(Continued on Page 4)



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STOCKADE ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES

STOCKADE ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

September 24, 1973

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 P.M. by Vice-President John Barber. The minutes of the May general meeting were accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: Will Taggart reported \$182.92 in the checking account. The Memorial Day picnic cost \$1,089.60 with a return of \$664.00 plus \$209.04 return on unused beer. The deficit for the picnic thus was \$216.54. The Association has one outstanding debt of \$273.28 owed to Toltex Research for all the printing of flyers, announcements, etc.

Vice-President John Barber welcomed new members and asked them to introduce themselves.

Old Business, Walkabout: Ann George reported everything was ready. The 1973 Walkabout will be held Saturday, September 29 from 10:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. Tickets may be purchased at the Historical Society, the Dutch Reformed Church, and St. George's Church.

Zoning Ordinance: Louis Navias reported on his committee's progress during the summer. The committee met with John Matthews who is hired by the city as a planner. The Stockade Board and the zoning committee met with Mr. Matthews and the committee will meet with Mr. Matthews again. The zoning committee wants changes in the language, the boundaries, in the authority of the Historic District Commission, and permitted uses as stated in the proposed ordinance.

Riverside Park: Karl Miller reported on his meeting on Riverside Park with Mr. William Leonard of city parks. He brought to Mr. Leonard's attention park deficiencies in grounds, tennis courts, pool, and the playground. There is a possibility of state and/or federal funding. He also presented a prepared statement to a city budget hearing on September 10 in support of a new pool at Riverside.

Report on County Bicentennial Plans: Mrs. Merrill Brown reported on the plans. A seminar meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 12, 1974 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the raising of the second liberty flag. The county is also planning a Fourth of July festival in 1976. Mrs. Brown then gave a brief run-down on committee heads.

New Business: Will Taggart reported on the Board's request for a raise of dues to \$5.00 per family unit (couple or single). Mr. Taggart reported that expenses for the previous years averaged \$1,700.00 with \$300.00 coming from dues and \$1,500.00 from the Walkabout. The Association wants the dues increase because the Board wants to get into other areas of concern such as a heritage foundation. The increase would be the first step in the Board's more active role. A motion was made to raise the dues to \$5.00 per family unit. Discussion followed and a vote was then taken. The motion carried.

Mr. Jerome Tieman reported that his home on Union Street was burgled during the art show. Mr. Tieman agreed to head a committee which would look into the subject of burglary and vandalism with the object of taking some preventive measures as a neighborhood.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Lamont,
Recording Secretary

STOCKADE MEETING

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19th, 1973. ALL STOCKADE RESIDENTS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO ATTEND.

BECOME AN AQUA-ACTIVIST

As we rake leaves and make ready for Thanksgiving, it's hard to think about our swimming pool in Riverside Park.

However, *NOW* is precisely the time we need to think about our pool, if we're going to get the City Council to build a new facility.

NOW — because the City Council will hold a public hearing on the City's Capital Budget *Monday, November 26, 8 P.M. in City Hall.*

NOW — because the pool/bathhouse complex must be made a part of that Capital Budget for us to have a new pool.

NOW — because our pool — built 40 years ago, and one of the oldest in the city is below standards.

SUPPORT A NEW POOL!

What Can You Do?

As a Stockade resident, *FIRST* please write the City Councilmen and the Mayor (c/o City Hall) urging them to include funds for a pool at Riverside Park in the Capital Budget. *DO THIS TODAY*; the Council is *NOW* privately considering what specific items will be in the budget.

SECOND, as a Stockade Resident, attend the November 26 Public Hearing — 8 P.M. — City Hall. *SPEAK* at the hearing.

Please support a new pool for the Stockade — call your pool committee if you have questions or additional ideas; John Barber, Karl Miller.



(Editor's Note: All Tidings and College Corner related news can be sent or delivered to 148 Front Street, Schenectady.

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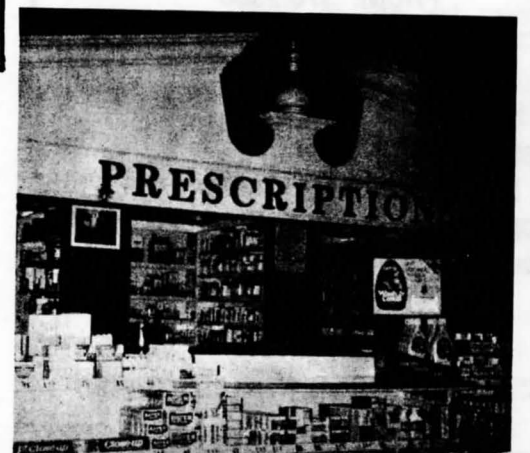
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(Continued from Page 1)

Glen-Sanders Collection

Over a year ago Colonial Williamsburg made it known that they would like to sell some of the items in the Glen-Sanders Collection. The Schenectady County Historical Society began negotiations with Williamsburg to purchase these items. Through the efforts of many people, nine pieces of furniture, seven pieces of silver, and about 150 pieces of Chinese Export Porcelain have returned to the area from which they came. They are now on display at the Historical Society.

All of the articles are exquisite. There is a Dutch Kas, a fine Hepplewhite sideboard made in New York City circa 1793; a fall front desk made in Albany, circa 1815 for Peter Van Rensselaer; a canopy bed possibly made for Peter E. Elmendorf; an English pianoforte; two blanket chests; a wash stand made about 1810; and a senility cradle made for John Sanders. The silver includes a ladle and beaker made for William Leonard Ten Broeck; two calices; and three beakers made for John Sanders. Two satchels and some boxes of clothing are also included.

Stop in at the Historical Society and look at these pieces from the Glen-Sanders Collection. Also, if you can help us in the purchase of these items, it would be greatly appreciated. Colonial Williamsburg has offered to sell this part of the Glen-Sanders Collection to the Historical Society because they are unable to use it, and therefore feel it should return to the Schenectady area whence it originated. But we need the help of everyone, if these pieces are to stay here. Stop over to the Society and see the Glen-Sanders items, and perhaps help us in this endeavor.

Mary DeJulio
for The Historical Society

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VALUABLE REHASHINGS

(Continued from Page 1)

I'm not talking about the artistic merits of the paintings, etc. Of course, it was a fundamental from its very beginning that the show be run as an open (non-juried) affair for anyone over 16 living within 35 miles of Schenectady. This year there were the usual assortment of mediocre and dull paintings and crafts (sculptures were generally good), but there also were some very outstanding paintings and craft items. The Village Show should open its racks and space to all who want to exhibit. This we all agree is basic.

But again it's *too* big for pleasurable viewing, and the indications are that it is probably going to get bigger, and therefore, I feel we should reconsider our aims and think of alternatives.

First, a juried show would cut the exhibit down to size, but I am certain we couldn't handle that.

However, we could do some or all of the following:

1. Hold an absolute limit to the amount of space allowed (8 sq. ft. of rack or building or fence frontage). The invitational letters to exhibitors should stress the limit and warn that if there is a violation, the violator would not be permitted to register in a succeeding year. Sounds tough but it's necessary.
2. No mixed exhibition of crafts and fine arts for any one exhibitor, i.e., no paintings and tables full of candles presided over by one exhibitor. Either you're fish or you're fowl.
3. Offer more prizes and honorable mentions to the fine arts exhibitors, thereby reattracting some of the painters and sculptors who no longer want to merely show in the vague hope of a sale. (We've got enough money to do for more prizes.)
4. Restrict the exhibitors to Schenectady, Albany, Saratoga, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Fulton, and Montgomery Counties. Exhibitors from Woodstock and Southern Vermont make for tough competition.
5. As you know, the early shows — probably for the first 8 to 10 years — ran for two days. For the convenience of many exhibitors and viewers that plan worked out very well. It might still be desirable. Consequently, I would urge that we consider a two-day show (postponable in case of rain to the Saturday or Sunday of the succeeding week) conditioned on a plan whereby exhibitors whose names begin with the initial A through L *only* show the first day, and those M to Z show only on the next exhibit day.

This would cut down the concentration of all exhibitors into one 4-hour showing. I believe this could be handled by our Villagers committee by enlisting more reception hostesses, rack and security men. They would likewise work on a one-day basis only. I know that there are untold numbers of gals and guys in the Stockade area who would readily volunteer to participate with the group of workers of eager beavers who now so capably man these posts. At your post mortem meeting, I would hope you will consider giving the foregoing suggestions a reflective study.

Cordially,

Ernie Cohen
230 State Street
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