

THE STOCKADE SPY



October 1991

Published by The Stockade Association

Vol. 32 No. 7



Photo by John Eoff, The Photo-Lab, Inc.



STOCKADE SPY
P.O. Box 1661
Schenectady, N.Y. 12301

Editor R. Michaela French
Business
Manager Noel Espina
Tidings Wendy Espina
Staff Diane Buckley
Hal Thompson
Paul Spencer

Sponsors—Stockade Association

President 377-5551 Susan Bokan
Vice President Marilyn Fisher
Treasurer Kathy Johnson

Printed by Schenectady Herold Printing

As always we are happy to receive your comments, news, literary works, etc. Without them the *Spy* is dead! Just a few reminders, along with my thanks.

All contributions must be received by Friday, October 18 for publication in the November Issue. Please be sure they are typed, double-spaced, and the **writer's name, address, and phone included**. You may leave materials at 43 Washington Avenue, clearly marked for the *Spy* editor, or at staff member Wendy Espina's home, 37 Front Street. Thank you for your cooperation. In case of undue hardship in getting information typed, we will consider clearly written letters (not articles). Any original material will be returned **upon request**; otherwise no responsibility for them is taken by the *Spy* staff. We look forward to hearing from you.



Letter From The Editor

Dear Readers:

I really found myself behind schedule this month. I had expected lots of copy from various people who wanted to have a spot in this issue — but when the deadline came there was only one item! Thanks to a great staff a miracle was wrought, or at least a lot of hard work accomplished, and this issue is ready for press.

I would like to go on notice that we are looking for a new business manager. Regretfully, Noel is finding his life as commuter is taking up too much time to be able to follow through as he used to, and has asked for help. Dawson has been of great assistance, but it is not fair to put it all on his shoulders — there does come a time when one should be able to enjoy a bit of relaxation in connection with the *SPY*, and surely Dawson deserves his. He has been of immense help during this transition, and now it is time for another wonderful Stockader to join our happy crew. The mystery question is: WHO?

Still in the Espina family, Wendy was too modest to mention that she has just been appointed to the position of Director of Staff Development at Teresian House. Congratulations Wendy from all of us. Teresian House is lucky to have such a competent and dedicated member on its staff.

Enjoy October, with all the ghosties and ghoulies and things that go bump in the night . . .

RMF

May, 1991 General Stockade Association Meeting Notes

At the General Stockade Association meeting in May, Susan Bokan read a letter she had sent to Kay Ackerman, asking her to provide us with statistics regarding the saturation of this area with public service facilities. Until these numbers are received we believe that no further plans should be approved by the city for changes in current facilities. General comments included anecdotal horror stories, and a reminder that the **Council**, our elected representatives, need to hear from us to get the other side of the picture when approving changes. The major problem is that no one in the city government seems to have an overall picture of what is being planned, in relation to what is already in place.

Cris Harter spoke about the need of the Historical Society to increase membership and financial contributions. They have already cut back on expenses, to the point that the gas lanterns outside may not be lit. Cris asked if the Stockade Association would contribute \$250, which would assure this lighting for a year. This was unanimously approved by the membership.

Jim Fisher asked about the pledge made by the Association for \$6,000 to the Colonial Schenectady Project when they had \$40,000 in hand. He questioned the time frame for the money to be collected, since it was understood originally that the project would be completed for Schenectady 300. After considerable discussion a motion was made for a January 1, 1992 deadline for CSP to collect their \$40,000 in order for the Association to honor its pledge.

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Schenectady Heritage Foundation Colonial Signage

The Historic District Commission decided on 9/16/91, by a vote of 4 to 1, to have the Colonial Project remove the 2 pilot signs on or before 31 October 1991.

This ends a chapter of activity dating back to February 1989, almost 3 years, successfully resulting in sign control in the Stockade Historic District.

The Chair, Jim Schmitt, thanked members for their efforts and tenacity which contributed greatly to this successful conclusion, and for the support of all The Heritage Board of Directors and the many friends of Heritage. The Stockade Signage report prepared by Robert Woods, assisted by Gloria Kishton and James Caufield was an invaluable tool in directing the efforts and educating the involved parties.

The Heritage Foundation's stand throughout has been positive. It supports The Colonial Schenectady Project, the brochures, the tapes and the **number plaques**.

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Stockade Association Board Meeting, September 1991

Susan Bokan announced that Fred Kindl would not be able to attend the September General Meeting to explain where the Colonial Schenectady Project stands to date. He will attend a meeting in November. Several other plans are under way for future meetings.

No statistics have been received from the city (see General Meeting, May, notes) regarding saturation. The YWCA has not completed the Environmental Impact Statement, so no further remodeling can be done at this time. The Association members are urged to write to the Council to ask for the statistics, and it was pointed out that it is no use writing or calling **AFTER** the election.

The next Board meeting is October 8, 1991.

346-7275

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Tidings

By the time you get the October Spy, we will already know whether or not Clarence Thomas was "Borked" or if he is a new Supreme Court Justice, replacing Justice Thurgood Marshall. After listening to the Senate Judiciary Committee put Mr. Thomas through his paces, I can't say that I know anything new about what he's got on his mind or his agenda, but I do feel like I've completed at least Introduction to Law I. Between "natural law" and "stare decisis" it was all I could do to keep up — but never fear — I'm here to report on just what it was that they were talking about... *Stare decisis* refers to a policy of law that requires courts to abide by laws and precedents already laid down as applicable to a similar set of facts. Natural law is simply the rules of conduct supposedly inherent in the relations between human beings and discoverable by reason: law based upon man's innate moral sense. Now I know that helped clear up all kinds of things for y'all... Right? Unfortunately, even after 22 hours of testimony, I still have no idea about just what it is that he believes in...

Anyhow, all things being equal... happenings around here in the Stockade are a lot more fun to report...and of course, the reporting is always "balanced..."

Well, the verdict is...the Art Show was an unabashed success, with perfect weather, great art and a wonderful crowd. Well done and good ole Stockade kudos to the gang who worked so hard to make it the absolute success it was!!!

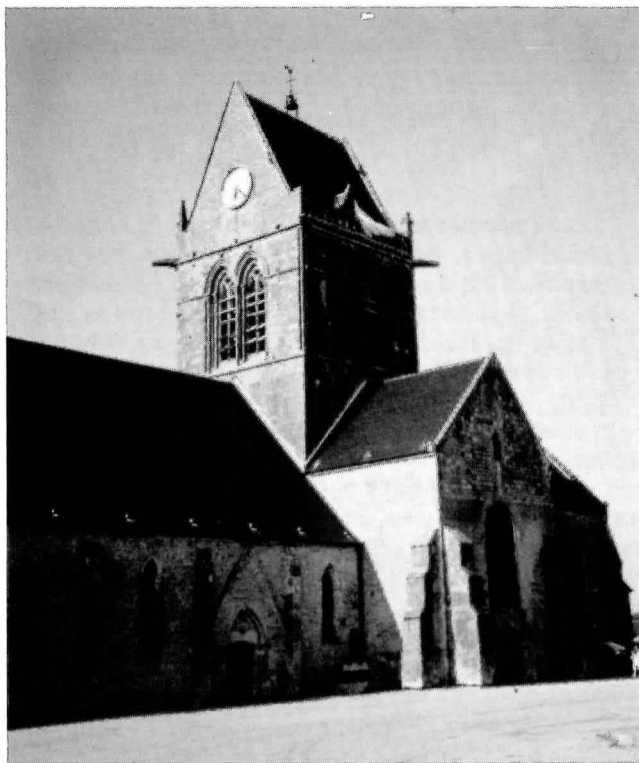
The Welcome Committee has been in full "session" this month as we show off some of our beautiful homes — and some folks welcomed out-of-town guests. Kathy Johnson of Front St. enjoyed a visit from her sister and brother-in-law, Joanne and Andy Shapiro, who live in White Plains, New York. Kathy's parents, Bob and Dorothy Johnson, from Burton, Ohio also visited. Everyone was up to get caught up on all the latest — and to go on the Walkabout. Good choice!!!

Stockadians also rolled out the Welcome mat for new resident Jay Freeland, who is also a new Front St. resident. Jay is presently a GE Financial Management Trainee, having just completed four years at Union College. A hearty Stockade welcome to you...

On the other hand, it's time to bid farewell to Rev. Charles Svendsen, who served as interim minister at the First Reformed Church on Church St. Rev. Svendsen will be completing his work here on October 3rd, and is heading to a new assignment at Plymouth Church of the Pilgrim in Brooklyn Heights, New York. All the very best from everyone here in the Stockade...

Our very own Paul Spencer and Hal Thompson headed out to Michigan for a few weeks, to enjoy summer's end. Now they're all rested up and ready to carry on here at the Spy...right guys???

And that's all the news...that's fit to print...Don't forget to write and let me know what's going on. In the meantime — have a happy and safe Halloween...and I'll see you next month.



Michaela French

St. Mer Eglise, where John Steele, a WW II U.S. paratrooper, was caught on the church steeple as he descended! The townspeople helped him, and the story makes this little Normandy town a tourist attraction.

Stockade Art Show

The day was perfect...144 artists registered. This was two short of an all time record for artist attendance.

Art works sold and the Gilliland family were touched by the loving response to a show dedicated to Jim and his years of service to this annual Stockade event.

We, the committee, could not have done this without the help of Stockader Volunteers. To all who acted as hosts/hostesses, served on committees, cleaned the streets in front of their houses, and hosted artists, we thank you and look forward to working with you next year.

Ellie and Al Strack
Co-Chairmen '91 Art Show

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Dawson Van Eps

Environmental Notes

In this issue I decided to let you know some of the good things that are happening — so that you won't sink into apathy and say, "what difference can I make?" You, and all of us CAN make a difference, but not unless we are prepared to make a few small sacrifices, like not buying overpackaged goods, encouraging legislators to be ozone conscious, and really telling our children and grandchildren about the fragility of our planet. They are the inheritors of whatever legacy we leave them, and that itself is enough to make thinking people accept some responsibility. Unless otherwise indicated, these excerpts are taken from EARTHWORKS.

The American Forestry Association, the oldest conservation group in the country, promotes the growth and care of trees. It hopes to plant 100 million trees by 1992. More information from Global ReLeaf, P.O. Box 2000, Washington, DC 20013 (202-667-3300).

Mundane as it may seem, dusting light bulbs and glass fixtures saves energy! Dust can soak up as much as 10% of a bulb's normal light, and dead moths in the fixtures (!) even more!

On April 12, 1990, tuna-canning companies in the USA responded to a national boycott by announcing their decision to market a dolphin-safe tuna. AND YOU THOUGHT YOU COULDN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE? Look for the dolphin free logo on the "good" companies' labels.

House plants can improve the quality of air inside your house. In a 1984 NASA study, a spider plant removed 95% (37ppm) of the formaldehyde from the air inside a closed container, in **24 hours**.

Some service stations use recovery and recycling equipment to capture CFCs and store them while your car air conditioner is being repaired. If they are out there, why not give them your business?

Michigan passed legislation to create an environmental cleanup fund financed by UNCLAIMED BOTTLE DEPOSITS. One fourth of unclaimed deposits will reimburse store owners for handling costs and the rest will underwrite recycling programs, toxic waste cleanups and long-term monitoring of abandoned toxic sites. Rinsing bottles before RECYCLING helps keep ants away.

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According to a *Gazette* reader, (5/9/91), a compact fluorescent light bulb uses only 17 watts of electricity for 75 watts of illumination, **lowers your utility bills**, and keeps one ton of carbon dioxide and 20 pounds of sulfur dioxide out of the atmosphere over its 10-year life.

Let your delis supply you with lunch and leftover containers. If they still use plastic containers, at least use them over — they are fine for freezing small portions.

A Greenpeace nontoxic control of ants: "Locate the place of entry, squeeze a lemon onto it, and leave the peel. Ants will also retreat from lines of talcum powder, chalk ... and cayenne pepper." I've tried the pepper and it really worked. Sorry all you ant lovers, but they can live outside can't they?

In other countries there have been some significant efforts to find ways to save our planet. It is always good to know we are not alone, that this is a world wide problem, and one that no one country can solve. Unfortunately we do cause more of the pollution than any other industrialized country.

Germany has amended its waste laws to require shippers to recycle transport packaging by the end of 1991, allowing consumers to deposit excess packaging at the store of purchase by 1992 and requiring stores to accept all used packaging by 1993. They will also impose deposits on beverage, cleaning product and paint containers. ECOS, March 1991.

Dutch engineers have adapted a standard diesel engine to run on vegetable oils. It operates with an efficiency of 40% at cruising speed (gas engines with pollution control — 27%). Byproducts from fuel manufacture can be used for fertilizer and food items. The company expects to begin production next year. ECOS, March 1991

Tokyo has one million solar water heaters. The entire U.S. has about that many, so maybe we should think about catching up?



Lisa Coleman

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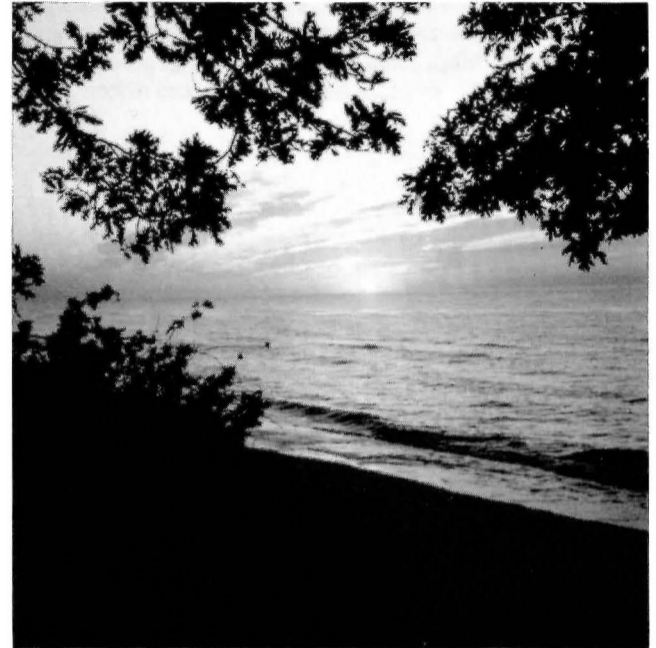
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