



SOCIETY HILL RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

New Look for SHCA Resident Newsletter

Notice anything different? We hope so. After the same look for almost two decades, it seemed like it was time for a change. The beautiful new masthead was created by Pamela Sinkler Todd who modified her prize-winning SHCA logo for our use.

The new format has been designed in response to your suggestions from last year's reader survey. Some features have been dropped that you didn't like, and some have been added that we think you will. You should have an easier time finding the features you liked that we have retained.

Until recently advertising revenue totally supported the newsletter. As a result of the dwindling of that revenue due to the economic downturn, the Newsletter is now being funded solely by SHCA with your membership dues; our new format contains no advertising.

In case you've been curious, the Newsletter staff is composed of Society Hill neighbors with varied backgrounds in business, teaching, real estate, public health, writing and editing, who share a unifying interest in the preservation and enhancement of our neighborhood. Our personal interests range from art and gardening to underwater exploration and bird watching!

Neighborhood Associations Invite Mayoral Candidates

On Thursday, March 21, at 7:30 pm, McCall School (6th and Delancey Streets) will be the site of "Candidates Night," co-sponsored by the Society Hill Civic Association, Queen Village Neighbors, Washington Square West Civic Association, Bella Vista Civic Association and South Street Neighbors. All the mayoral candidates have been invited to come and respond to The Alliance for a Better Philadelphia's proposed city government reforms, as well as questions from the audience. Russell Byers, columnist for *The Philadelphia Daily News* will moderate.

The Alliance for a Better Philadelphia is a nonpartisan grassroots coalition of neighborhoods, businesses and institutions, committed to reforming city government. Toward this end, it has formulated an action plan entitled "Vision 2000," which outlines better performance at all levels of city government, problem prevention, effective organization, efficient delivery of services and *above all* accountability of government to citizens. It is also designing a candidate rating system in an effort to promote a better informed voting citizenry.

This is a chance to challenge the candidates to address issues of importance to our city and our community. Don't miss this opportunity to ask for more constructive political dialogue and a new commitment to civic leadership.

Cawood Leaves Independence Park

On April 20, Hobart C. Cawood, superintendent of Independence National Historical Park for the last 19½ years, will end his 33-year career with the National Park Service. Hobbie was responsible for bringing to the Park many talented experts to interpret and manage this remarkable asset, and under his leadership Independence Park became the historical and architectural treasure of which we are justifiably proud.



Photo by Nancy Frenze

... a time to kill and a time to heal.

Ecclesiastes

(Continued on Page 2)

New Elegance on Washington Square

Feast your eyes on an elegant blend of the past and the present when you visit the Locks Gallery located in the former Lea and Febiger building on the southeast corner of Washington Square. A superb collection of works by renowned international and local artists now resides in what had been the home of the oldest publishing firm in the United States.

Delight in the contrast between the original marble-floored entry with its restored dark wood paneling and the uncluttered white-walled reception area and first floor salon. The dropped ceilings of the publishing firm are gone, leaving the original ceilings enhanced with elaborate track light-

ing. A sense of brightness is further enhanced by the light new maple and white ash floors.

The original walk-in fireplaces, flanked by the familiar windows overlooking Washington Square, have been maintained in the office and conference room on the first floor. Restored to functional beauty, the old winding stairwell connects the three floors that house the collection. Huge flower arrangements punctuate the salons and offices throughout.

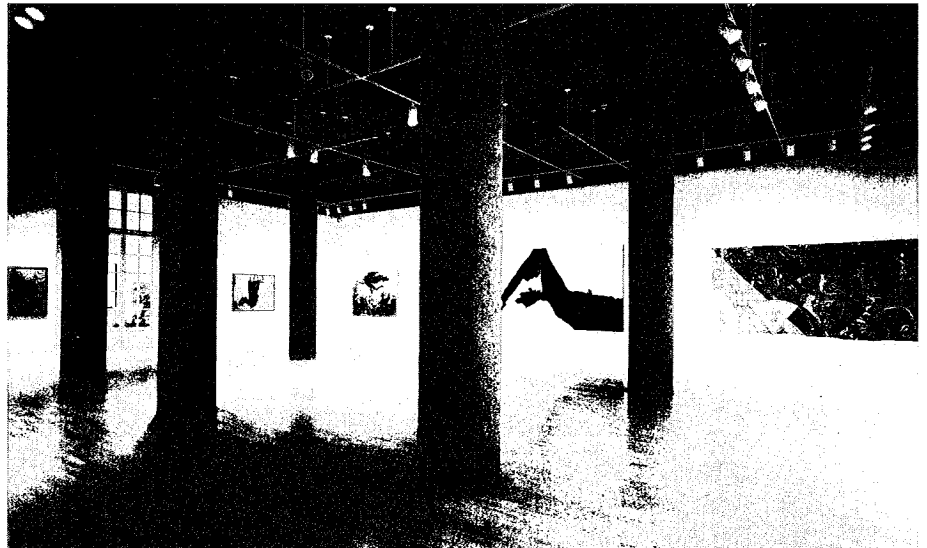
Ms. Sueyun Locks, director of the gallery, said that she and Mrs. Marian Locks, who founded the gallery 18 years ago at its former site on Walnut Street, were delighted that they had

been able to purchase this spacious building. She stressed that they'd wanted to maintain and restore as much of the old grandeur as possible. Still, massive renovation was needed to create this showplace: installation of completely new heating, air conditioning and electrical systems, as well as the removal of most of the original interior walls.

Ms. Locks has been delighted with the support from the neighborhood and hopes that the gallery will be a source of cultural enrichment for the community, providing opportunities to stop in and enjoy the works of celebrated artists like Louise Nevelson, Willem DeKooning and Jean Debuffet.



Locks Gallery during renovation and as it looks today.



Photos by GGK, Bud Swedloff, John Czarnowski

Cawood

(Continued from Page 1)

Philadelphia can also thank Hobie for many of its success stories: the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial, the 1982 Philadelphia Tercentenary and the 1987 Constitutional Bicentennial celebrations, to name a few.

Libby Browne, Society Hill resident and chairman of the Board of the Friends of Independence National Historical Park from 1980 to 1982, remembers Hobie for his vision and his "can-do" approach, as well as for his ability to work well with community

and business leaders and Park volunteers.

Hobie leaves an indelible mark on Philadelphia, and our community owes much to him. He and his wife, Addie Lou, will move to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where he will become the president of Old Salem, Inc., an effective and successful living history operation. We wish him well and know that he will give all his well-known energy and enthusiasm to Old Salem.

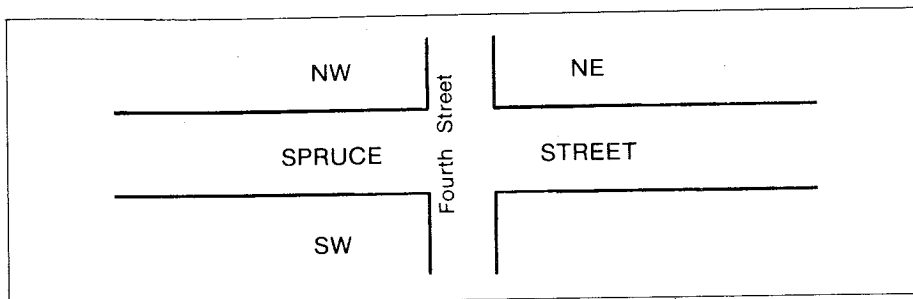
SHCA extends its condolences to the families and friends of firefighters David P. Holcombe, Phyllis McAllister and James A. Chappell, all from Engine Company No. 11 at 6th and South Streets, who lost their lives in the recent fire at One Meridian Plaza. Contributions may be made in their memory to the Hero Scholarship Fund, c/o Fire Prevention, Fire Administration Building, 3rd and Spring Garden Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19123.

SHCA Board Election in May

You can make the difference! You — or someone whose leadership qualities you admire — have an opportunity to become involved in the policy making that will affect the quality of life in our neighborhood. Society Hill has been in a vulnerable position since 1987 when the protections afforded it by the Redevelopment Authority ended, and will remain so until it receives official designation as a local historic district by the Philadelphia Historical Commission.

quadrant director, you must submit the name of the nominee and a petition signed by a minimum of ten members *from the nominee's quadrant*. If you are nominating yourself or someone else for president, you must submit the name of the nominee and a petition signed by a minimum of ten members *from the general membership*.

Petitions should be sent to Fluffy Palmer, SHCA administrator, P.O. Box 3, Philadelphia, PA 19105, by April 20,



At the SHCA general membership meeting on May 15, the 1991-'92 Board of Directors will be elected. The 16-person board consists of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and three directors from each of the four quadrants.

A 1990 amendment to the SHCA By-laws defined a term of one year for officers and a term of three years for quadrant directors, with one director's seat from each quadrant being vacated each year. Since SHCA President Rebecca Stoloff will end her tenure this May, members will be voting for a new president, as well as four new quadrant directors.

The SHCA nominating committee will propose a slate of candidates. If you want to be part of the process and nominate yourself or someone else for

1991. A list of all candidates will be published by the nominating committee prior to the election. (SHCA By-laws, Article 1, Section 8).

SHCA Board Last Quarter Motions

Motion passed to fund one four-page issue of the newsletter with an insert to be used in lieu of a flyer and to investigate funding sources for future issues.

Motion passed to contribute \$100 this year to OPCC Craft Show.

Motion passed supporting the paving of 5th St. from Lombard to Walnut in Belgian block with/without trolley tracks.

Motion passed to officially oppose Bridget Foy's Restaurant seeking a permit to enclose sidewalk cafe area.

Motion passed to support Sarto Schickel's Market Square Plan for the Convention Center along with QVNA, South St. Neighbors, Washington Square West and Bella Vista. Letters will be sent to the Governor with carbons to *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and other appropriate contacts.

Mark Your Calendar

All meetings will be held at Old Pine Community Center, 4th and Lombard Streets, unless otherwise noted.

March 20	Board Meeting	6:30 pm
	Refreshments	7:30 pm
	General Membership Meeting	8:00 pm
March 21	Mayoral Candidates Night (McCall School, 6th and Delancey Streets)	7:30 pm
April 17	Board Meeting	7:30 pm
May 15	Board Meeting	6:30 pm
	Refreshments	7:30 pm
	General Membership Meeting (Election of New Officers)	8:00 pm

Watch for notice of City Council Candidates Night in April.

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The Society Hill Civic Association adopts the principles of the original policies underlying the redevelopment of this area which called for a residential district in the human scale, urban in character, yet quiet, dignified and compatible with the area's history.

In order to assure that our neighborhood adheres to these goals for a residential area, we must preserve our historic houses, support the concept of single family, owner occupied dwellings, lower density, prevent the spreading of commercialism and reduce congestion.

Committee Reports

Legislative (E. Schnurer):

This new committee will examine copies of all legislation sent to SHCA for possible impact on our neighborhood.

Maintenance (D. McNeil):

- Improperly installed phone wires in Lawrence Walk were removed.
- The removal of the two new newsboxes on 5th Street is being pursued.
- Work on a design for the reconstruction of the 300-400 blocks of South 5th Street has begun.

Membership (C. Mooney):

Membership solicitation mailing has been completed. As of February 20, there have been 241 responses totalling \$5,185.50 in membership dues collected.

Recycling (B. Zitin):

This new committee is exploring the possibility of a recycling program in Society Hill.

Zoning (L. Lawson):

- 630 Pine St. Owner's subdivision appeal in Commonwealth Court was again denied.
- 406 S. 6th St. A letter to be sent to the realtor concerning tenant problems.
- 400 Spruce St. Owner obtained a building permit for a three story addition.
- 227 Stamper St. The stucco covering the historic facade will be allowed to remain.

Zoning Hearing

Three variances sought for Washington Square Garage.

On March 28 at 9:30 am at 1321 Arch Street, 12th Floor, there will be a hearing for the following three variances:

- 1) legalization of a rental car agency (not permitted in R-13 Districts);
- 2) legalization of an auto washing and detailing business whose use exists on the premises in violation of the zoning code. This business takes up spaces for 12 cars; and
- 3) legalization of two wall signs (4 ft. x 8 ft. x 8½ ins. deep) on six-foot high walls advertising the businesses. The car washing advertising that appears on the proposed sign is not mentioned in the petition of appeal.

A permit was denied because the sign advertises multiple business uses that are not allowed under the property permit.

Not considered, to date, is the Declaration of Easements, Covenants and Restrictions between Independence Place Association and the Society Hill Civic Association, Washington Square East Condominiums #1 and #2 and the immediate neighbors less than 10 years ago, which states (Page 4, Para. 1): No signs of a commercial nature shall be posted or installed on the property between the South Tower and Manning

Walk or between the North Tower and Locust Walk.

**Dirty Streets?
Call for Action!**

When you need service or notice a problem needing attention, you can call the Streets Department directly and avoid a possible wait for busy City Hall operators. Please call during regular business hours.

Garbage/Food Waste	866-5564
Illegal Dumping	
Clean-up	686-5560
Enforcement	686-3082
Philadelphia More Beautiful	
Committee	978-3969
Pothole and Street	
Repair	686-5508
Recycling Program	686-8298
Street and Alley Lighting	592-5683
Traffic Signals & Signs	686-5530
Trash Collection	686-5560

Starstruck?

Because of its ability to spread rapidly, flu was once believed to be caused by the influence of the stars and planets. In the 1500s, the Italians gave the disease the name "influenza," their word for "influence." Not until the 1930s and '40s did scientists discover that flu is caused by constantly changing types of viruses.

**MAIL TO: Society Hill Civic Association
P.O. Box 3
Philadelphia, PA 19105
Attention: Treasurer**

- New Member Membership Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone (day) _____ Phone (eve.) _____

Single \$15.00 _____ Corporate \$50.00 _____

Household \$25.00 _____ Corporate Sponsor \$100.00 _____

Please make checks payable to Society Hill Civic Association.

North, South, Over and Under I-95's New Ramps

The completion of I-95 in Center City Philadelphia which began last April is two weeks ahead of schedule. This is what Al Alberts of Urban Engineers, Inc., consultants to PennDOT reported at SHCA's January membership meeting.

According to Alberts, the construction company will receive a bonus if the work is completed on or before August 1 (the scheduled completion date), and would be penalized if work extended beyond that date. However, the construction workers firmly believe that there will be considerable bonus money for finishing early.

When the crew has been paid, we will have a six-lane north-south highway with five on-ramps and three off-ramps to and from I-95 North, and four on-ramps and three off-ramps to and from I-95 South, all serving the central waterfront area from Packer Avenue to Callowhill Street.

In other words, if you want to go north on I-95 from Society Hill you will be able to do so from Delaware Avenue just above Queen Street or at the Lombard-Delaware Avenue entrance. Anyone wanting to go south can get on I-95 from Market at Front Street, from Delaware Avenue at Morris Street, or from the Vine Street Expressway (I-676/US 30).

Exits into Society Hill from the north will be at Callowhill Street or at the Washington Avenue exit onto Del-

aware Avenue. Coming from the south there will be a choice between an exit to Delaware Avenue near Reed Street, Washington Avenue, Dock Street and one to Callowhill Street.

Although access to and from Delaware Avenue via Society Hill will still be popular, we hope that much of the rush hour traffic on Pine and Spruce Streets will be absorbed by the new Vine Street interchange with I-95 which will afford every choice imaginable.

In addition to the main construction on I-95, work is being done on the Walnut Street pedestrian bridge, the Dock Street bridge, as well as on Front Street from Dock to Sansom and on from Chestnut to Arch. The mitigation wall to be installed along Front Street at Morris will display decorative brick facings with carved limestone graphic panels. Water Street from McKean to Reed will be reconstructed, and footings will be installed for a possible pedestrian bridge between Front Street and Delaware Avenue at South Street.

Additionally, Urban Engineers is designing a new Delaware Avenue for the waterfront between Reed and Richmond. Plans call for a landscaped median strip between Reed and Spring Garden Streets. Also in the plans is the long anticipated Riverwalk. If the scheme is approved on schedule, this phase of the project is expected to be under construction by late 1992.

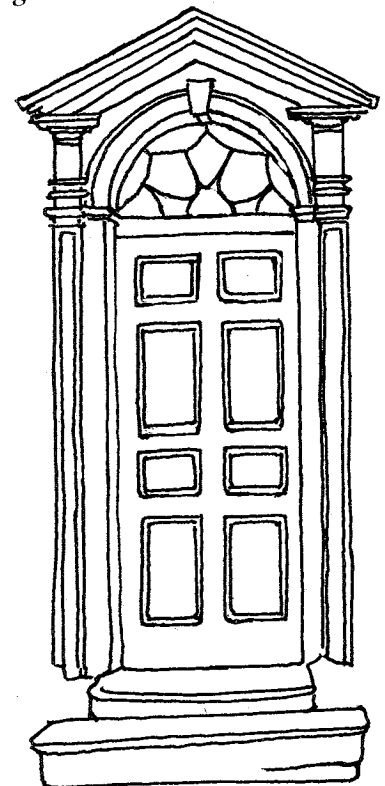
Crime Prevention Tips

Police Officer Edward Markowski, the Crime Prevention Officer at the 6th Police District offers the following tips to help keep our neighborhood safe:

Thefts from Autos — Never leave anything in your vehicle that can be seen from the outside. No matter how little the value, it can attract a thief. Some people are putting signs in their car windows like "NO RADIO." According to Officer Markowski, this is like a "Keep Off The Grass" sign which people will walk across the grass to read. *Do not* put these signs in your car.

Burglaries — Your home or apartment is yours. Protect it from burglars. Make sure all doors are locked, even if you just step out for a moment. Keep windows locked, and don't be afraid to call the police when you hear any unusual noises.

Final Tip — It's time we all started looking out for each other. Get to know your neighbors and help them in any way you can. Don't turn away. Call the police when you see a crime in progress.



The *Man Full O'Trouble Tavern* is now open to the public the second Sunday of each month from 1 to 4 pm. The museum, located at the corner of 2nd and Spruce Streets, is looking for guide volunteers. If interested, please call Joyce Halley at 744-2470.

Calendar

Charter Day Celebration

The Friends of Nicholas More will convene for a glass of madeira in the Nicholas More Room at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel to observe the 309th anniversary of William Penn's grant to the Society of Free Traders. Luncheon will follow with an address by Robert Trump, an early restorer in Society Hill, who will also show slides of his early work. For information call 922-3623.
Sheraton Society Hill
March 25 — 12 Noon

H-P-K Plant Sale

The garden at Hill-Physick-Keith House will be filled with flowers which are suited to the cramped spaces and dark corners often found in the city, as well as plenty of sun-loving annuals for those gardeners lucky enough to need them. A sizeable collection of herbs, perennials, hanging baskets and decorative pots will also be available. Rain or shine.

321 South 4th Street
Friday, April 26—3 pm to 6 pm
Saturday, April 27—10 am to 6 pm
Sunday, April 28—10 am to 6 pm

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A quarterly publication of the
 Society Hill Civic Association
 P.O. Box 3
 Philadelphia, PA 19105
 (215) 629-1288

Staff:

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Nancy Frenze	Carolyn Mooney
Bernice Hamel	Lois Sigel

Articles and letters welcome.
 Deadline for Summer issue is
 May 1, 1991.

Spring Market Days

The Head House Conservancy and Philadelphia Open House will be co-sponsoring the revival of a historic tradition: Spring Market Days. In the spirit of a festival market there will be refreshments and entertainment; flowers, fruit baskets and other wares from local vendors will be on sale.

Head House
April 27 and 28 and May 11
May 25, 26 and 27 (Tentative)
Noon to 6 pm

Philadelphia Open House

Society Hill extends a special welcome to visit private homes and hidden gardens, see faithful restorations and collections of 18th and 19th century decorative arts, as well as contemporary interiors filled with crafts behind Georgian facades in our neighborhood next door to the most historical park in the country. For ticket information call 928-1188.

April 26 to May 12

Head House circa 1950



Photo by Joseph Sacks

Prattle

- NewMarket will be made into a miniature golf course.
- The PA Liquor Control Board will stock only bottles of 1.75 litre size at the 5th Street store.
- NewMarket will become the site of a new stadium for the Army-Navy game.
- A driver stopped his car at 2nd and Pine to allow a pedestrian to cross.
- NewMarket will be used to store cars towed by the Philadelphia Parking Authority.
- Traffic directions will be changed on Spruce, Pine and Lombard, and South Street will be closed to all but pedestrians and bicycles (and police horses, of course).
- NewMarket will become the home of a trash-to-steam facility.
- The 100 block of Pine Street will become a play street closed to traffic between the hours of 3 and 6 pm.