

SOCIETY HILL REPORTER

Vol. 2, No. 2 • Issued February 4, 1992

NOTES from the President

repeat the Name-tag Contest at our next General Meeting—March 18. (See the SHCA CALENDAR, and while you do so, please note also that all neighbors are welcome to board meetings of the civic association. Come on! Get involved.)

Now, for some neighborhood news:

6th Police District Advisory Council Meeting, January 29th:

Captain John J. Collins reported that the "normal" seasonal increase in muggings and other street crime has subsided. Dr. Marilyn Appel, a SHCA member and leader in the development of city-wide police district advisory councils, reminded attendees that the proper use of 911 is simply to use it! Police assistance is dispatched ASAP according to the seriousness of the situation.

Recycling:

The glass recycling igloos at the Starr Garden site have already been emptied once—meaning that we are collecting more than ever before.

Let's have a few more volunteers to help for about a half hour on Saturday mornings about 9 a.m. (Please!)

Cleanup:

After a two-year lapse, a "Spring Cleanup Day" has been proposed for Saturday, April 25th. But to make this a reality, we will need leaders and helpers. Don't be shy. Call the SHCA office at 629-1288 to join the effort (and fun).

And, speaking of cleanup: LAURELS to Joe McKone, Lawrence Court neighbors and all who brought nearly 100 discarded Christmas trees to be mulched. A delightful scent of evergreen was produced for the Walkway.

On the other hand, DARTS to residents who forgot the rules about putting out trash on legal holidays. It's a simple case of clean streets vs mean streets: If trash pickup falls on a legal holiday—such as Martin Luther King's birthday last month—WAIT A DAY to put

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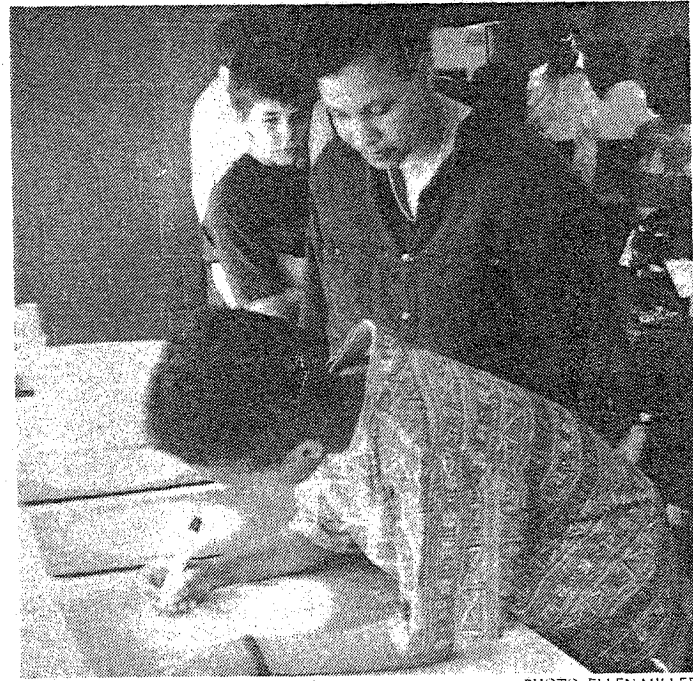


PHOTO: ELLEN MILLER

Jamillah Jackson signing Head House roof slate, as his mother looks on. See Head House article beginning on Sun front page for the latest news on the roof work.

hours:
Monday-Friday: 7 am - 9:45 pm
Saturday: 7 am - 11:45 pm
Sunday: 9 am - 7:45 pm

SECURITY

According to Denise Goren from the Mayor's office of Transportation, the ferry will supply its own security—as will the Aquarium. What about security at Penn's Landing?

PHILLY'S FIVE REPRESENTATIVES

- Denise Goren, Director of the Mayor's Office of Transportation;
- Bill Hankowsky, from the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation
- the City's Commerce Director
- a representative from the Philadelphia Zoo, which operates the Aquarium
- a representative from the Chamber of Commerce.

Here's what our community would like to know:

When five Philadelphians were invited to participate in the planning of this new ferry, why were we not represented?

Surely, Society Hill is the most likely community to be impacted by the potential of increased numbers of people, particularly during weekend summer hours. Since Camden residents have even one movie theater in their city, it is most likely they will be in our direction for weekend evening entertainment. On the other hand, it is most unlikely that Philadelphians will be heading for Camden for weekend or evening entertainment.

In all fairness, however, the Aquarium plans to schedule evening events, which justifies nighttime ferry rides. And a positive two-way stimulation is anticipated. For example, New Jersey suburbanites might park their cars in the garage adjacent to the Aquarium, and then take the ferry over to Philadelphia to partake of excellent resources—great restaurants, movies, etc.

Nevertheless, there is concern—optimism touched with concern. We'll keep our eyes and ears open, and hope for the best. Meanwhile, have a fun ride!

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW CAMDEN-PHILLY FERRY, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK!

With a good deal of excitement and justifiable pride, the new Camden Aquarium will be opening February 29. A month later, on March 31, a ferry service connecting Camden and Philadelphia will be inaugurated. The opening of the new ferry was designed to coincide with the opening of the Aquarium as a way to carry aquarium visitors from our side of the river back and forth. In addition New Jersey residents will have fun access to the Penn's Landing/Philadelphia recreational area.

The Delaware River Ferry Company is a nonprofit, public/private venture between the "twin cities," comprised of five representatives from each side of the river. It helped form an independent operating company, Riverbus, Inc., which has exclusive rights to provide the ferry service between Penn's Landing and the Aquarium.

Because a portion of the funding for the Riverbus comes from the federal government, certain restrictions were necessary—such as, commuter hours had to be included with tourist and recreation rider service. Also, ferry fees had to be structured so they would not compete with the Franklin Bridge tolls.

Here are the hard facts:

The ferry will run at least 24 times a day, carrying up to 400 passengers for the ten-minute trip. A one-way fare for adults is \$2; \$1.50 for children and senior citizens. Group rates for 20 or more will cost \$1 per person.

HOURS OF OPERATIONS:

The winter operating schedule looks like this:
Monday-Friday: 7 am - 6:45 pm
Saturday: 7 am - 8:45 pm
Sunday: 9 am - 5:45 pm
The summer schedule has longer

SOCIETY HILL REPORTER

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Articles & Letters Welcome.
Deadline for March issue: Feb. 25.
Mail to above address.

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THEN AND NOW: What is That Big Building?

By Liz Ostrander

Have you ever wondered what that building at the corner of Fourth and Lombard is all about? How long has it been there? Who built it? Have you been told that it's the Community Center and it's been there forever?

Look back with me to the olden days.

Once upon a time, there was an empty lot on that corner. People walked their dogs there. In the summer, folks had garden plots where they grew tomatoes, and squash, and sunflowers, and all manner of good things. In the fall, dads and little boys threw footballs there. And in the spring new mummies compared notes on their young ones.

Everybody liked the vacant lot. Now the teeny weeny congregation of Old Pine had a dream that someday it would build a bright and beautiful community center on that vacant lot so people could have a place—other than the church itself—to come together and be neighbors. But the congregation was so small and had so little money, it had to wait for the dream to come true.

Now, the landowner, The Redevelopment Authority, came to the teeny, weeny congregation and said, "You have to build your building—Now!!—or we'll take the land and put up townhouses from curb to curb."

So the teeny, weeny congregation and the folks from St. Peters School, and the history buffs from the other corner held bake sales and put up the Old Pine Community Center all by themselves!

For the first time ever, there was a place for little and big kids, for old people, for volley ball people, for Watchers watching Weight, and for Yoga-ites. There was a place for civic associations and neighborhood groups, for politicians and dietitians, for birthdays, and weddings, and Bar Mitzvahs. There was a place for the whole neighborhood.

I wish I could say everyone lived happily ever after. (Well, almost!)

Because the Center was built during an oil crisis (did I tell you that ground was broken in 1976?) no new gas line could be installed, and so the building is all-electric! Have you ever seen a utility bill from an all-electric building?

SHCA Calendar

(clip & save)

Old Pine Community Center
**NOTE: Open to all members

Tuesday, February 25
'MEET & GREET YOUR NEIGHBORS' RECEPTION FOR SHCA MEMBERS
5:30 - 7:30 pm
Hurricane Alley/Cafe Nola
328 South Street
Hosted by proprietors, Bill Curry & Judy DeVicaris

Wednesday, February 26
COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND SAFETY
7:15- 9 pm
Penn's Landing Square Community Room
130 Spruce Street
(enter Lobby at SE corner of 2nd & Spruce)
Hosted by: Town Watch

Wednesday, March 18
SHCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Old Pine Community Center
6:30 pm - Board Meeting
7:30 pm - Refreshments/Reception
8:00 pm - General Meeting
SPECIAL GUEST: Martha B. Aikens, Superintendent, Independence Park

Thursday, February 5
RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY: NEW ROOF FOR HEAD HOUSE
noon
Corner of 2nd & Pine Sts
Hosted by the Head House Conservancy

Friday thru Sunday, February 7-9
ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR OLD PINE COMMUNITY CENTER
PREVIEW PARTY: Fri. 7:30 pm
EXHIBITS: Sat & Sun: all day
For more info: See pages _ & _
4th & Lombard Sts

Saturday, February 15
DA'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT
11 am - 2 pm
Old Pine Community Center

Wednesday, February 19
**** SHCA BOARD MEETING**
7:30 pm

And because Old Pine believes it is a part of the community, it gives a lot of free space to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and many, many other groups. The Center is always struggling to find new ways of raising money.

But because a lot of you helped

the teeny, weeny congregation build its dream so many years ago, all of us who live in Society Hill have our very own club house. We call it the Old Pine Community Center. Visit us.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Continued from last page
out the trash. Our streets looked very messy when some trash sat out on our sidewalks, in some cases, for almost 48 hours. When the SWEEP program really gets going, those households will be fined!

Civic Association Membership:

Thanks to the 120 plus SHCA members who very quickly responded to the annual membership renewal letter. We hope a lot more of you will send in your renewals when paying monthly bills. If you were not a member, however, you naturally did not receive a renewal reminder. We therefore urge you send in the SHCA MEMBERSHIP coupon printed in this issue of the Society Hill Reporter.

Meet & Greet Your Neighbors:

Please join us for the "members only" reception at Hurricane Alley/Cafe Nola on South Street. Owners of the adjacent restaurants, Bill Curry and Judy DiVicaris, are hosting this purely social, cocktail party. Free refreshments, with cash bar. Tuesday night, February 25th from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Jane Brown, SHCA Membership Chair, will have your names (and application blanks) at the check-in table. We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones!

We like to socialize and we like good films. Another good reason for us to get together! We contacted the management at The Ritz At The Bourse about a movie party to benefit the Association, and they responded enthusiastically. Although no date has yet been set, it will definitely be held on a week night in either March, April, or May. The Ritz will give us two to three weeks notice as to which film it will be offering. Work is also in progress to find a local hotel to donate "munchies." The cost will be \$10 for both SHCA members and non-members. We'll provide more information once all the details have been arranged.

—Dick Ostrander

THE SOCIETY HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

If you didn't receive a 1992 membership renewal letter ...it means, naturally, that you were not a SHCA member last year
WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US THIS YEAR!

Your membership and your voice will make a difference in our neighborhood.

Tear off and mail to:

Society Hill Civic Association
P.O. Box 3, Philadelphia, PA 19105

Attention: Treasurer

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Corporate \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single \$12.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Sponsor \$100 |

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

I(We) would be interested in working with the following committees:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Liquor Control |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Town Watch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Reporter/Sun newspaper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |

YOUR HOME IS YOUR PRIMARY INVESTMENT. PROTECT IT!

MADE BY HAND

THE OLD PINE COMMUNITY CENTER
7TH ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW

- Visit The Wasson Hall Cafe for Lunch
- Free Supervised Child Care



Friday, February 7, 7:30-10 PM
Benefit Preview Party

Saturday & Sunday, February 8&9, 11 AM - 6 PM
Adults \$4 • Children 6-12 \$1
\$1 off adult admission with this ad

OLD PINE COMMUNITY CENTER
401 Lombard Street • 627-2493

7th Annual Craft Fair at Old Pine Community Center

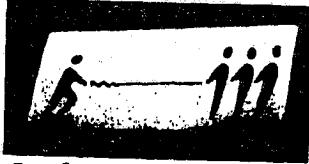
The annual MADE-BY-HAND Craft Show at Old Pine Community Center takes place this weekend. Opening celebrations begin with a gala preview party: Friday, February 7th, from 7:30-10 pm.

Wood, fibers, glass, ceramics, leather, and metal works—in a great variety of uses and applications—will be presented by 40 talented artists/artisans who were selected to participate. Among the exhibits are jewelry by Carolyn Zakarija and Gail Yaffo; plush knit offerings by Mary Schaeffer; Elizabeth Seltzer's silks; ceramics by Janet Lowe; and Belle's imaginative ceramics.

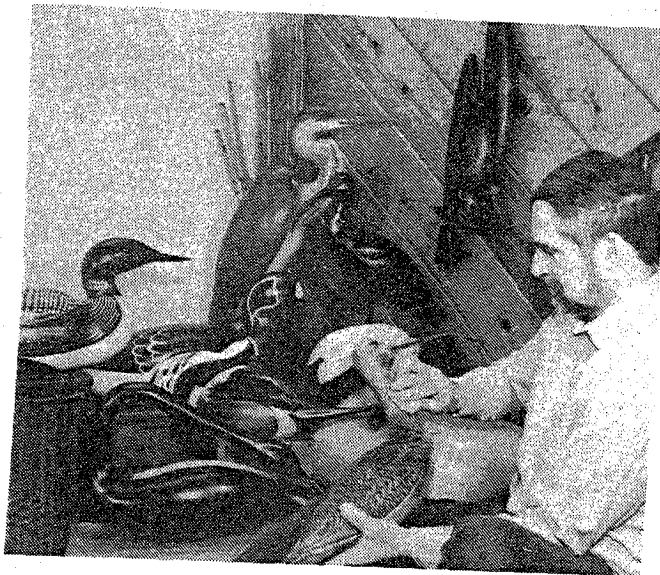
The Craft Show is open from 11 am to 6 pm on Saturday and Sunday, February 8th and 9th. Adult admis-

sion is \$4, with a \$1 discount if a printed ad (see page 2) is presented at the door. Supervised child care, for youngsters under six, is provided free both days.

The gala preview party costs \$25 and includes unlimited admission to the show. For reservations, or any information about this fundraising event that helps keep your community center going, please call 627-2493. You may want to read the "Then and Now" article (previous page) that recalls the birth of the Center. In any case, we look forward to seeing you this weekend.



Carolyn Zakarija design.



John Jeffrey Barto adding finishing touches to a Long-billed Curlew Shorebird.

ATTENTION NEIGHBORS PRIVATE SCHOOL EDUCATION AT PUBLIC SCHOOL PRICES

The McCall School
6th and Delancey Streets
Welcomes You To Call or Visit
Find out what everyone is talking about
Leonard Rovner, Principal
351-7350

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

The Community Awareness and Safety Program at the Society Hill Towers on January 14 attracted a standing-room-only crowd, possibly because neighbors were alarmed by a daytime robber who targeted women. Attendees were relieved to learn that an alert neighbor, who had witnessed a crime in progress, was able to jot down a license number that led to the suspect's apprehension.

The program began with tips from the Fire Department and included presentations on street and even

elevator safety! (Stand by the control box on an elevator; it's easy to push the alarm button if some behavior causes you concern.) Officer Mike Fusco from the Sixth Police District described services and programs to make urban dwelling safer and more secure. Another meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 26 at the Penn's Landing Square Community Room, 130 Spruce Street at 7:15 pm. (Entrance at the SE corner of 2nd and Spruce.)

DA's Community Outreach Program Visits Society Hill

Saturday, February 15th, from 11 am to 2 pm, the District Attorney's Community Outreach Program is available to you in this neighborhood.

Take advantage of this opportunity to have your problems, complaints, comments or suggestions deliv-

ered directly to the District Attorney's office. Assistant DA, Ms. Harriett Brumberg, will be in the 2nd floor library of the Old Pine Community Center to meet with you. (The Center is located on the NW corner of 4th and Lombard Streets!)

You are Invited to



HELP US SAVE THIS HISTORIC STRUCTURE!

THE HEAD HOUSE & MARKET SHAMBLES

The Head House Conservancy is made up of people like you... people who love their neighborhood, the city of Philadelphia, and our Nation's architectural treasures.

You can make your contribution by dining at Dickens Inn and we will contribute \$4.00 for every dinner purchased to help restore The Head House. Simply bring this ad with you. (One ad per party.)

Valid February and March (Saturdays excluded).

For Reservations
Call 928-9307
Reduced Validated
Parking



421 South 2nd St.
Between Pine
& Lombard,
Philadelphia



SKYLIGHTS

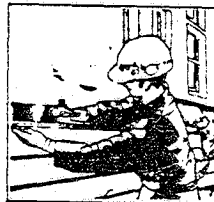


GUTTERS

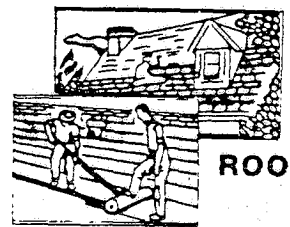
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Established 1912

MO 4-2920



SIDING



ROOFING

CERTIFIED FOR HISTORIC RESTORATION
SPECIALIST IN HARD-TO-FIND LEAKS

Currently working on Head House roof restoration,
Jeff Biel, project manager.

