

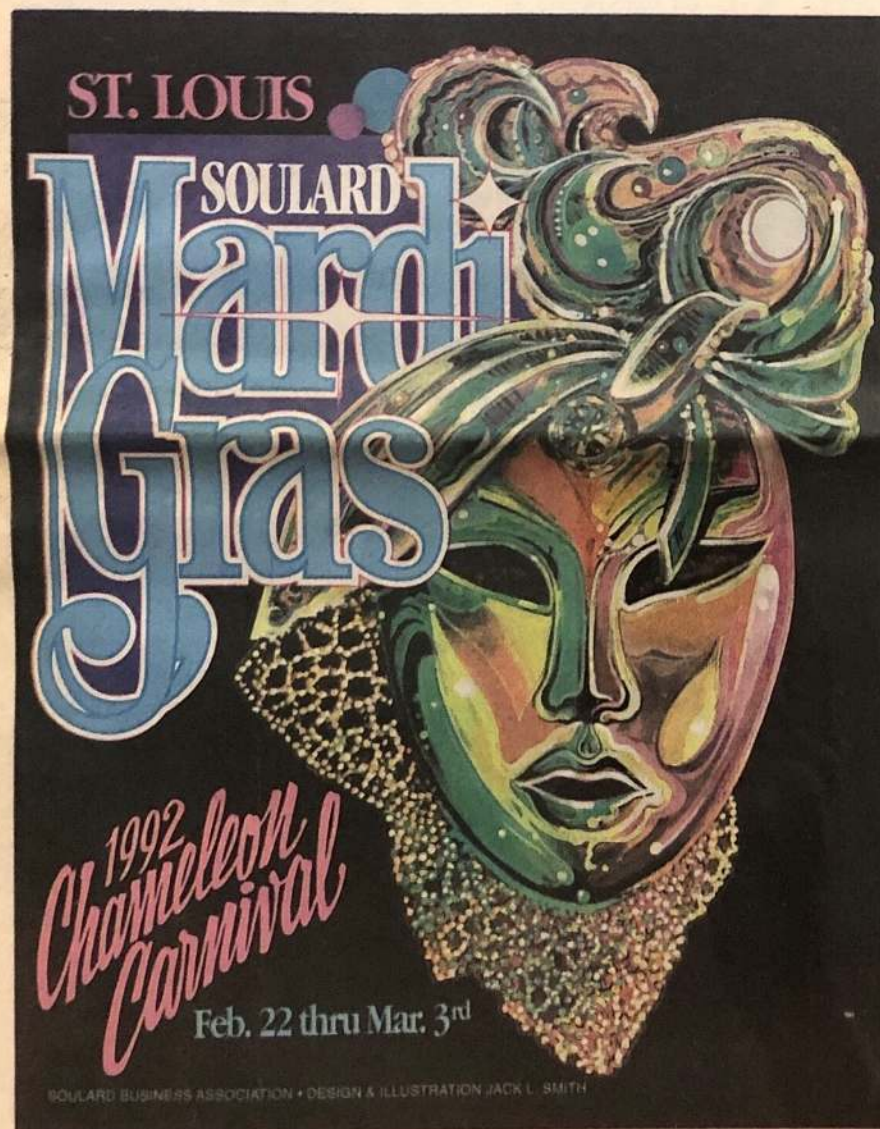


The Souldard Renaissance

"The Neighborhood Magazine of Historic Souldard"

Volume XVII, Issue 1

Mardi Gras 1992



Celebrate Mardi Gras Souldard Style

by
Judy Ivery

Walking lobsters, cowboys, cars with doll parts glued all over them. In Souldard, Mardi Gras is that, and a whole lot more. The Souldard neighborhood invites all who are young, or young at heart, to celebrate the Chameleon Carnival for the ten days leading up to Fat Tuesday.

Mardi Gras in French means Fat Tuesday, the day before Lent begins. Carnival refers to the season, which begins on the 12th night after Christmas, Epiphany, and continues to Ash Wednesday. The Carnival season is the feasting before the fasting of Lent. In New Orleans, Rio de Janeiro, and Venice there may be weeks of parties, parades and costume balls up to midnight of Mardi Gras.

The Mississippi River is an age-old roadway, so it's only natural that customs, fashions and traditions should travel up and down the "Mighty Miss." Our ornate ironwork found fashion in New Orleans' French Quarter, and it's only fair that our French-founded neighborhood should borrow one of New Orleans' best-known festivals—Mardi Gras.

Mardi Gras in New Orleans began in the 1700s and became so rowdy that it was eliminated for a short time. The celebrations did continue, although restricted. The first formal parade was held in 1838.

The season officially begins when one lucky debutante finds a golden bean in her slice of "king cake" at the Twelfth Night Revelers Ball. She reigns as queen of the ball, served by her maids who found silver beans in their cakes. The Carnival has begun!

Throughout the rest of the season krewes are giving balls, parades and parties. A krewe is a social club that organizes the parades and raises the money throughout the year to hold the festivities. Many of the krewes have a long history and blue blood.

In Souldard, French for "fat under the pig," Mardi Gras has become known as a day to see a parade, taste some delicious Cajun or Creole food, and enjoy a few (?) libations. The carnival in Souldard began several years ago when the Mardi Gras parties of Hilary Clements began to get bigger and bigger.

(continued on page 3)

**SEE ARTICLES AND ADS THROUGHOUT
THIS MAGAZINE FOR COMPLETE
MARDI GRAS PLANS AND DETAILS**

**Calendar of Events, p.3 — Parade Route, p.5
Featured are pictures from Mardi Gras past.**



NOTES FROM THE BRICK HOUSE

by
Richard R. Eaton
President, SRG

Progress is usually equated with change and the Souldard neighborhood is no exception. The renaissance of the neighborhood has resulted in change reflected in buildings, street-scapes, businesses and residents. New issues also arise with change, some unforeseen and some predictable. The Souldard Restoration Group has taken a position on most issues especially when the issue directly affected the neighborhood residents.

The most recent situation of extended operating hours until 3:00 a.m. for business establishments selling alcohol has been presented to the Board of Directors of the Souldard Restoration Group. A predictable issue in a neighborhood where so many bars and restaurants have been experiencing success. The Board of Directors of the Souldard Restoration Group has taken the position of opposition to any request for 3:00 a.m. operating license for a business which lies within the boundaries of the Souldard Historic District.

The opposition to 3:00 a.m. operating license for a business selling alcohol comes from the negative impact this could have for the neighborhood. Souldard, primarily a residential neighborhood, has a healthy mixture of bars and restaurants now operating in harmony with the residents. A 3:00 a.m. operating license would most certainly create conflict between residents and business owners and extended operating hours for one establishment would be followed by additional applications. The Board has expressed concern about the negative impact that 3:00 a.m. operating license would have on residential promotion, crime prevention and general nuisance, noise and litter.

The conflict created by new issues is often uncomfortable because there are individuals on both sides of an issue. This issue has been no different. The Board of Directors of the Souldard Restoration Group represents a broad spectrum of residents and business owners and the decision to oppose 3:00 a.m. liquor license was the outcome following careful deliberation and an assessment that the opposition on this issue was not a barrier to progress and change in Souldard.

Souldard Restoration Group

Do you love living in Souldard?

Would you like to meet more of your neighbors?

... then membership in the

SOULDARD RESTORATION GROUP

is for you!

The group consists of homeowners, renters and local businesses. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month in the school hall at Trinity Lutheran Church, 8th & Souldard, at 7:30 p.m.

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

Editors often make the mistake of believing what they have to say is of great importance to their recipients ... I have no such illusion, based on the receipt of fewer "Letters to the Editor" than two hands can count ... and phone boo's and woos counted without removing one's shoes! So what is to be said, is with hope to inspire and encourage you to

get involved and enjoy the by-products of living where history and the future meet. The Aperture in the curtain of time we enjoy is larger looking back, than the narrow focus of the mysterious future. Great faith and vision are required to look forward into 2000 and beyond.

Gabriel (not a household name) Cerré of the 1780s was just such a sort of man who, ten years before the framers of the Constitution, knew the secret of the Tenth Amendment. Rights of people in Souldard were to come not from Washington, but from the sweat of their brows in Frenchtown (the previous name for Souldard). Gabriel had celebrated Mardi Gras traditions and lived the free-hearted hospitality that it evoked, with people of vision in his day ... You see, Mardi Gras was going on in the 1700s and has evolved to what we celebrate today.



So who is this Cerré character, and what has he to do with you and me? He was the father of Julia, who had a country estate without carpets, where dancing to the violin, powdered wigs and silks were elegantly worn to celebrate the Carnival season in what was to become Souldard. During such festive times Cerré announced the

marriage of his daughter to Antoine Pierre Souldard.

Now you have probably figured the rest of the story. We owe a debt to this man who as "crème de la crème" has no equivalent in anyone else's language. He set the pace—a great place to mix business, pleasure, family. A great neighborhood. Thank you Gabriel and all those who have followed to make ours the best neighborhood in St. Louis.

—Carlis

NEW SRG MEMBERS

The Souldard Restoration Group welcomes the following new members:

Sharon Wiszkon
James Orlopp
Colleen Desmond
Tom French
Martha Bussell
Joe Thele
Kathy Barkey



The Souldard Renaissance

The Souldard Renaissance has a circulation of 5000-8000 and is published six times a year by the Souldard Restoration Group.

It is distributed to Souldard residents, to Souldard and St. Louis area businesses and to our advertisers.

Call Carlis Dawson 664-9738 for editorial information. Call Jeanne Weber 771-8428 about advertising. Copy and ad deadline for the Spring issue is March 27, 1992.

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Celebrate Mardi Gras!

(continued from page 1)

Now the Souldard Business Association handles the organization of Mardi Gras, with help from many of the business owners and residents. The festivities begin with the Mardi Gras Ball on Saturday night February 22, at the 9th Street Abbey. King Rex and Queen Comos are chosen from the best costumed guests. On Saturday, February 29 at noon they ride in the parade that winds through the streets from the Anheuser Busch Tour Center to the Souldard Market.

The parade traditionally has a theme, this year being "The Chameleon Carnival." You can expect to see floats, decorated cars and walkers in a wide variety of costumes. Of course, for a festival as colorful as Mardi Gras, one should wear something more festive than a sweatshirt and your most comfortable jeans. In fact, many times costumes can be seen among the parade watchers. An acceptable parade ensemble would include a mask and costume of any description. At Mardi Gras, just about anything goes as fashionable. If you are not inclined to wear a costume, you can wear the traditional colors of the season—purple, green and gold. No one seems to know exactly how the col-



Souldard Mardi Gras

ors were established, but one theory holds purple is for justice, green for faith, and gold for power.

Now, it's time to sample "New Orleans-style cuisine" at the neighborhood restaurants. "A Taste of Souldard" offers revelers a way to sample small portions of many different dishes. Purchasing a booklet of tickets will allow you to try a Cajun dish you may have never had before, or a favorite restaurant's version of a familiar item. All Souldard restaurants and pubs will be open all day until 1:30 a.m., serving traditional cajun entrees in keeping with the spirit of Mardi Gras.

If you want to have a good time, Souldard Mardi Gras is for you. Bring your family, wear a costume, eat some great food, celebrate with a libation. Souldard is fun, Mardi Gras is feasting, come celebrate the Chameleon Carnival with us this season.

Mardi Gras Schedule '92

Saturday, February 22

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Cajun/Creole Cookoff
Souldard Market Auditorium

12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Taste of Souldard*

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Antique Show
Preservation Hall

8:00 pm to 12:00 am

Mardi Gras Ball
9th Street Abbey
1808 S.9th Street

Saturday, February 29

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Art Show
Souldard Market Auditorium

12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Taste of Souldard*

12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Mardi Gras Parade

Sunday, March 1

2:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Micro Beer Taste*

Monday, March 2

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Missouri Wine Taste
Souldard Market Hall

Tuesday, March 3 (Fat Tuesday)

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Art Car Parade from Anheuser
Busch to Souldard Market

Other Carnival Week Events:
Treasure Hunt for the Gold Doubloon*
Mardi Gras Masque Contests*
Cajun/Creole Food Specials*
St. Louis' Best Live Music*

INFORMATION PHONE NUMBER — 768-2345

*At Participating Establishments

MARDI GRAS Retrospective

by Skip Gatermann

Throughout this magazine there are pictures of Mardi Gras celebrations from Souldard's past.

They represent many of the parades over the last 10 years.

How many of these floats do you remember?

Right 1983; Below 1991



The Blues Soul of Souldard

PRESENTS

13 DAYS OF BLUES

Music to make your Mardi Great!

Thursday	Feb. 20, '92	Blue City Band
Friday	Feb. 21	Mojo Syndrome
Saturday	Feb. 22	Tommy Bankhead & The Blues Eldorados
Thursday	Feb. 27	Mojo Syndrome
Friday	Feb. 28	Buffalo Bob
Saturday	Feb. 29	Afternoon Buffalo Bob (Rides again)
Saturday	Feb. 29	All Night Tommy Bankhead & The Blues Eldorados
Fat Tuesday	Mar. 3	Twilite Jump

"Y'all join us for the fun of it, heah?"

IN HISTORIC SOULDARD

UPDATE ON PLANS FOR NEW HONOR CENTER

Efforts to resolve the controversial plan by the state's Department of Corrections (DOC) to relocate its "Honor Center" program from its current location in St. Mary's Honor Center on Papin St. to the vacated Malcolm Bliss site continue.

The city has purchased a new site in the north riverfront area on which to construct a new facility that would house 400 persons. A team of consultants has been retained to work with the DOC to design a facility that would meet the needs of the program. The consultants' goal was to bring the facility in at a lease-purchase payment of \$750,000 or less which is a figure agreed upon by Rich McClure of Governor Ashcroft's office in a meeting with State Senator Clay, State Representative Ronnie White, Alderman Marit Clark and myself last fall. The consultants have done an outstanding job of meeting the needs of both the DOC's staff and the budget demands.

In an early January meeting with Representative White and Committeeman Steve Chalmers, Governor Ashcroft explained that his budget proposal contains \$700,000 for the new site and that an additional \$50,000 was contained in the supplemental appropriation for that purpose. However, on January 7, the consultants met with Gail Hughes, director of DOC, and representatives of the Division of Design and Construction. They were quite pleased with the plans for the new facility and amazed that it was significantly

less costly than they had thought it would be. However, Mr. Hughes' stance was that Malcolm Bliss is a valuable building which could be quite successfully utilized by the Department of Corrections without many alterations. Therefore, if the city wants DOC to use another site it should be willing to pay any costs over \$250,000.

We believe that we will prevail!! However, in the meantime Booker & Associates is being retained to determine the actual value of the Malcolm Bliss facility. It will evaluate the physical plant and the utility costs of doing business. (The utility costs were the prime reasons cited by the Department of Mental Health for moving from Malcolm Bliss.) This study as well as an analysis of potential for adaptive re-use will assist in placing a monetary value on Malcolm Bliss for negotiating purposes.

Meanwhile, Ronnie is in Jefferson City watching the budget along with our new senator, J.B. (Jet) Banks. Both are assisting us in our efforts. Alderman Clark and I will join them anytime they call!

I feel we've made remarkable progress this past year. We've benefitted significantly from your involvement. The governor asked who got everyone fired up on this issue, and Ronnie told him, "You did, Governor, when you attempted to move St. Mary's into Malcolm Bliss." The governor knows you care, and if we need to remind him I'll be sure to let you know.

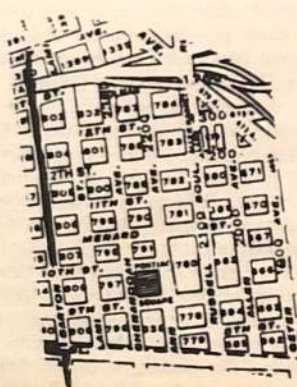
New 7th Ward Boundaries Affect Soulard

Redistricting has occurred! Every ten years following the census the wards of the city must be redrawn to reflect the shifts in population. The city's population declined substantially in the past ten years, particularly in the northern portion. Therefore, the new boundaries must reflect that motion by a southward shift.

The Board of Aldermen struggled with the problem of redrawing the lines, and a new map was passed by the Board on December 20 and is now official, although a court challenge has been filed.

The newly drawn map adds more of Soulard to the 7th Ward. It also places more of Fox Park and the Tower Grove East neighborhoods into the ward. Most of the old 7th Ward portion of Lafayette Square has been shifted to the 6th Ward where the bulk of that neighborhood is situated. The Peabody public housing complex was also shifted back to the 6th Ward, where it was located prior to the last redistricting in 1981.

Below are maps showing the 1981 and 1991 7th Ward boundaries in the Soulard Neighborhood.



1981



1991



"Its Barbeque Specialties
Are Real Winners."

—Joe Pollack /9-16-91

STEAKS, SEAFOOD, SANDWICHES & SPIRITS

Complete Dinner \$4.99
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IN HISTORIC SOULARD

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Genuine New Mexico Kitchen

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Some American Dishes Available

2nd Floor Available for Private Parties



Close to Downtown Hotels . . . in Historic Soulard

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1860 SALOON



HARD SHELL CAFÉ

1992 Mardi Gras

Live Music & Cajun Food Specials
February 22nd thru March 3rd

Mardi Gras Weekend:

Zydeco Marathon with Fernest Arceneaux from Lafayette, Louisiana
Friday 28th & Sunday March 1st in the 1860 Bar; Saturday 29 in the Hard Shell Café — 2:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Jimmy Lee will perform Saturday 29 in the 1860 Bar — 2:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Mardi Gras Parade: Saturday, February 29th.

Fat Tuesday Party: March 3rd with Fernest Arceneaux — Cajun Food Specials All Day!

1860 S. 9th 231-1860

HISTORIC SOULARD

OPEN 7 DAYS

Mardi Gras Parade

SCHEDULED FOR
February 29

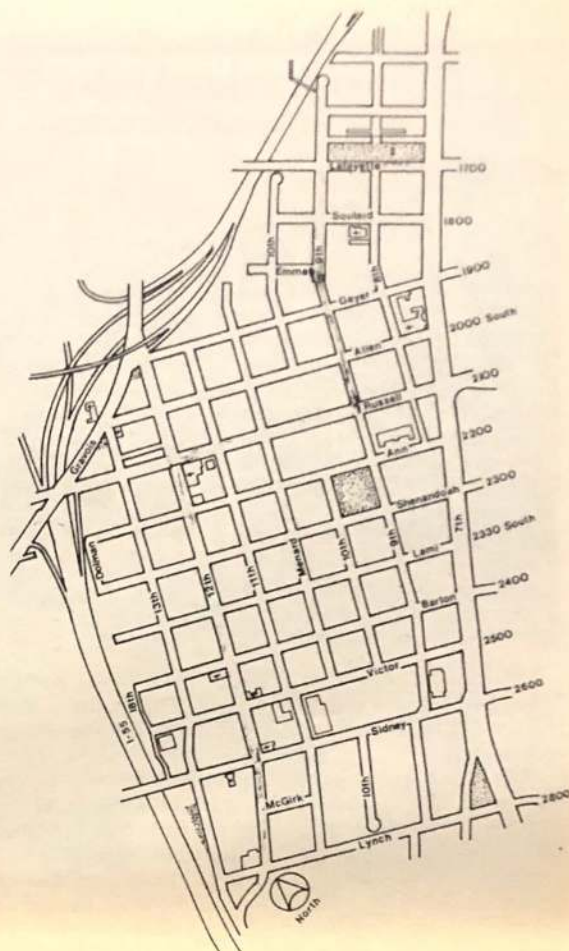
by Gary Siddens

This year's Soulard Mardi Gras Parade promises to be bigger and better than ever. There will be marching bands from various high schools, clowns of all descriptions, and a four-team hitch of the world famous Anheuser-Busch Clydesdales.

Of course, to have a parade you must have floats, and floats there will be. The winner of the Budweiser Soulard Mardi Gras Parade float contest will be announced that evening with \$1,000 going to the first prize float, \$500 going to the second prize float, and \$250 going to the third prize float. The floats will be judged based on most closely matching this year's theme—"A Chameleon's Carnival."

The parade route will begin near Anheuser-Busch at 12th and Lynch Streets and proceed north on 12th Street to Russell, east on Russell to 9th Street going north. At Lafayette, the parade route will turn east again and proceed to 7th Street and will then disband to the south near Soulard's restaurant. The parade is scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m. and is expected to conclude at approximately 2:00 p.m.

The bottom line is that Mardi Gras this year will be FUN. Therefore, tell all your friends and family members to get down to Soulard and have fun with us during the Mardi Gras celebration!



Mardi Gras Retrospective

Top 1989; Bottom 1991



SOULARD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION • DESIGN ILLUSTRATION JACK L. SMITH

19



92

Mardi Gras Ball

Saturday, February 22

9th St. Abbey — 8 pm - Midnight

Costume or Formal Attire requested
Call the MARDI GRAS HOTLINE for
schedule of events and participation in specific events &
TICKET INFORMATION: 768-2345

Proceeds to benefit Shelter The Children

Neighborhood Fabric

by Jay Gibbs



The rehab/restoration of 1827 S. 9th Street, by brothers Jim and Mike Heidenry, is nearly complete. The result of their two years of work is the preservation of one of the most interesting home facades in Souland.

This house was constructed in the French Creole Style, and is one of only six such houses still extant in Souland. The two-story front porches, the low roof slope, and the front "light well" at the basement level are all characteristics of this architectural type.

The front, pre-1850 portion of the house was built first: The basement room was the kitchen and one room each on the first and second floors completed the original three-room residence. Two subsequent rear additions doubled the size to six rooms; all were finished prior to the Civil War.

The renovated house features its original first-floor fireplace mantle and its original pine staircases. The "double-gallerie" porches, however, are its defining feature. This 2 bedroom, 1½ bath, free-standing home is for sale; some lucky buyer will become the latest owner of a surviving piece of St. Louis' early French history. Househunters, check it out!



CAPITOL BUSTLES WITH ACTIVITY AS 1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS

Jefferson City—Armed with suggestions from residents and an optimistic attitude, legislators from across the state journeyed to the Capitol for the opening day of the 1992 legislative session on January 8.

During session, which runs from January 8 through May 15, legislators will be debating on a wide variety of legislation, with the state budget, foundation formula and a possible gas tax increase mostly likely to be key issues. The information that I and my fellow House colleagues received from you during phone conversations and visits during the interim is sure to prove invaluable to me when making legislative decisions.

As the first few weeks of the 1992 legislative session get underway, much of the legislative activity will take place in committee hearing rooms, rather than on the House floor.

Until actual floor debate begins, I will spend a lot of time attending numerous public hearings and committee meetings. Currently, there are 46 standing House committees with each representative serving on approximately three to five committees.

During public hearings, committee members listen to proponents and opponents of legislation that has been referred to the committee by the Speaker of the House. The committee will then either vote on the bill in its original form or make amendments or substitutions for the bill before making recommendations to the House. The committee may also choose to kill the measure by not voting it out of committee. After a bill is voted out of committee, it is placed on a calendar to be discussed on the House floor.

It is during public hearings that your participation is very important. If you are interested in testifying for or against a particular bill, I encourage you to contact me or the chairperson of the committee to which the legislation has been referred. The more input we get from you, the better we can understand what your needs and concerns are.

During the legislative session or the interim, I do my best to make myself available to you if you have any questions or comments. Please feel free to write or call me at (314) 751-9400.

—Ronnie L. White
State Representative 63rd District

Historic Souland — 816 GEYER — MOLLY'S



**MARDI GRAS
KICKOFF**
Feb. 22nd
**HOT CLUB
CANARY**
3-7pm
BOB CASE
9-1am

**PARADE
DAY**
Feb. 29th
**DOC TERRY
&
THE PIRATES**
2-6pm
8pm-12am

**FAT
TUESDAY**
Mar. 3rd
**SOULARD
BLUES
BAND**
9pm-1am

MARDI GRAS BALL BENEFITS SHELTER THE CHILDREN

by Gary Siddens

In Souldard we like to do our celebrating a little earlier than most. Therefore, we are kicking off the celebration with the 12th annual Mardi Gras Ball at 8 p.m. on Saturday, February 22 at the Ninth Street Abbey in historic Souldard. Moreover, the fun continues into the next weekend with the annual Souldard Mardi Gras parade, which begins at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 29.

This year's Mardi Gras Ball should prove to be one of the most exciting in recent memory, with dinner and dancing from 8:00 p.m. until midnight at the historic Ninth Street Abbey. Please remember, costumes or formal attire is required. The King and Queen of Mardi Gras will be selected from the best costumed couple (regardless of gender) of the evening. They will be invited to ride in the Mardi Gras parade the following Saturday. This year's menu is being created and served by Patty Long Catering, featuring various traditional cajun delicacies. And, of course, keeping with Souldard tradition, there will be an OPEN bar all night long. Music this year will be provided by a local St.

Louis band, Fanfare. Their musical spectrum ranges from top 40 to the big band tunes.

Tickets to the Souldard Mardi Gras Ball may be obtained by calling Laura Daus at Carson's. Her number is 436-2707. Tickets this year are \$35 per person and benefit Shelter the Children, Inc.

Shelter the Children, Inc. is a non-sectarian, not-for-profit organization of concerned citizens dedicated to the needs of homeless and abused young women aged 16-21. Shalom House, situated in south St. Louis, is the first home of Shelter the Children, Inc.

Shalom House is the initial step in confronting this problem locally. The group home, operated by a trained professional staff, was designed for eight or fewer young women. This environment provides an opportunity for these youth to live in a stable family-like atmosphere, complete with house parents.

Therefore, by attending the Mardi Gras Ball, not only will you help a worthwhile charity, but you will also join in on much mirth and merriment with your local Souldard neighbors.

Mardi Gras Retrospective

Top 1989; Bottom 1991



John D. McGurk's



Irish Pub &
Restaurant

FOR MARDI GRAS INDOORS AND OUT
FEBRUARY 28 AND 29

The Finest in
Traditional Irish Music

12th & Russell
St. Louis, Missouri 63104
Phone: (314) 776-8309

FRESH SEAFOOD ... for lunch
in our upstairs
dining room and
for dinner every night

Full Dining During
Mardi Gras Celebration
Taste of Souldard's—
Jambalaya



SOULARD'S
RESTAURANT
and BAR

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ARCELIA'S
Authentic Mexican Food of Old Mexico



Daily
Specials

Try Our
MARGARITAS

7:00 am - 9:00 pm — DAILY
Friday & Saturday — Open til 10:30 pm
2501 South 9th at Victor
1 Block West of Broadway (7th) in Souldard
Carry Outs — 776-5900

Unofficial Underground Mardi Gras Ball

Friday, February 28

8:30 pm to 1:00 am — \$10

Music by THE HOO DOO CATS
THE CHAMELEON DANCERS

Call 621-8080 for tickets.
Tickets are limited, call early.



street
ABBNEY

1808 S. 9th St.
The Royal Krewe
of Souldard

SOULARD NAMED COMMERCIAL THEME DISTRICT

From the sounds of live blues and jazz to the tastes of Cajun, Mexican and Irish food to the fun of Mardi Gras and Bastille Days celebrations, Soulard is a distinctive, colorful, culturally and architecturally rich and diverse area of the City of St. Louis. A national, state and city historic landmark, Soulard is one of the oldest neighborhoods in the City of St. Louis.

Soulard was recently named as one of St. Louis Development Corporation's (SLDC) commercial theme districts. As such, Soulard will receive SLDC's assistance in business and commercial development as well as funding from the Community Development Agency's 108 Loan Program. SLDC has hired Mike Konroy to be the Soulard commercial district manager.

"Soulard is a natural choice," said Mike Konroy. "It's a thriving, growing area with huge potential and SLDC wants to help see that potential realized."

Soulard's theme is night life and entertainment. The funding received from the project will go to facade improvements throughout the area.

"The commercial theme district program allows small businesses throughout Soulard to make facade improvements that otherwise could not be accomplished," explains Alderman Phyllis Young, Ward 7.

"The Soulard theme proposal was initiated by the beautification committee of the Soulard Restoration Group and they are excited to have been chosen. I see this proposal as a productive joint endeavor between residential and commercial interests of the Soulard neighborhood."

Home to many small and mid-sized businesses, Soulard also contains some of the largest and oldest companies in the city, including Anheuser-Busch World Headquarters, Monsanto Queeny Plant, Nooter Corporation, Schaeffer Manufacturing, Yellow Freight and A.E. Schmidt.

"Soulard is a cornerstone of the history and future of the City of St. Louis," says Konroy. "We're excited to assist in reaching for that future and making it reality."

For more information on how SLDC can assist your business relocate or expand in the Soulard neighborhood, call Mike Konroy at 351-3328.

Mardi Gras Retrospective

Both photos 1991



772-4097 ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097

In Soulard.....Selling Soulard

We don't just list your property....we sell it! Soulard had a record year in 1991...32 properties sold
AND WE SOLD 19 OF THEM!!

720 Lami.....826 Ann.....2359 So. 12th.....908 Lami.....1304 Shenandoah
820 Ann.....916 Russel.....2354 So. 10th.....2314 So. 12th.....2421 So. 13th
725 1/2 Shenandoah.....1842 So. 10th.....2354 So. 10th.....1831 So. 8th
2414 So. 13th.....2310 So. 13th.....2350 So. 11th.....1849 So. 10th.....914 Russell

We don't just list Soulard: WE SELL SOULARD - AND HAVE THE RESULTS TO PROVE IT!!
We don't stop at selling either. Pat and I will see you all the way through to closing - working with you on building inspections, termite inspections, loan applications, appraisals, title work..all the way to a smooth and successful close: And in the middle of all that, we will help you relocate: We know the county neighborhoods especially well having lived in Webster and the County for 3 years.

SELLING OR BUYING IN SOULARD.....CALL ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097

Stop the Press: We have put another 3 properties under contract in Soulard already this year! 1236 Sidney, 1827 So. 8th and 2407 So. 13th.

King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King	OFFICE 776-6279
OFFICE 776-6279	King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King	ALAN & PAT RICHARDSON 772-4097	King

IMPORTANT MEMO

To: Our Dearest and Closest 300 Very Best Friends
 From: The Royal Krewe of Soulard
 Re: A Reason,
 A Place, and
 A Time to Party

The Royal Krewe of Soulard presents the second annual unofficial-underground Mardi Gras Ball. "The Krewe" makes no promises of decorum, civility, nor any other such boring niceties. "The Krewe" has planned an evening of pure bacchanalia.

Friday, February 28 will be the night THE HOO DOO CATS direct from Austin, Texas, will bring their own style of music to the streets of Soulard when they are center stage at the 9th Street Abbey. Plus performances by the dancing lizard ladies themselves THE "CHAMELEON" DANCERS first time on stage ever in the St. Louis area. If you've been to New Orleans, we don't care. If you've been to Austin, we don't care. But you will want to be here when "The Krewe" puts the flavor of New Orleans with the music of Austin in our own Soulard style.

Plan on starting the Mardi Gras weekend in the way it is supposed to be done—INSANE—by getting your ticket to this party of parties, this show of shows. This extravaganza ... no less!

The show begins at 8:30 p.m. and ends at 1:00 a.m. on February 28 at the 9th Street Abbey, 1808 S. 9th in Soulard. Tickets are \$10.00 each which includes: music of THE HOO DOO CATS, performances by THE "CHAMELEON" DANCERS, cajun/creole buffet, costume prizes, the crowning of King Antoine and Queen Julia, and a never ending cauldron of surprises.

For your ticket call: The Sovereign Etat-Major of the Royal Krewe of Soulard at 621-8080 or write a check or money order to 9th Street Abbey and mail to: The Place To Be On February 28, c/o The 9th Street Abbey, 1808 S. 9th Street, St. Louis, MO 63104.

BLOCK CAPTAINS RESPOND

(The following is a copy of a January 19 letter sent to the Soulard Block Captains.)

Dear Block Captains:

Our recent publication of *The Renaissance* was distributed the day before a nasty rainy day. Many of these papers were wasted on the lawn and sidewalks of the residence.

I need help as the new editor and would welcome the support of the Block Captains in a new effort to see that the "Voice of Soulard" is received by the residents in a good condition. Would the group of Captains consider delivering these along with any other information that they are giving to the residents? Would this help the Captains establish a rapport with the current residents and help keep our neighborhood a better place to live?

I am sorry I will be unable to attend the Block Captains meeting. However, I would appreciate a commitment from the group to help in the February Mardi Gras paper distribution. I believe I can deliver the papers to the Captains in a timely fashion if I may have a list of those who will participate. This will allow them the important task of personal delivery of information affecting our neighborhood—and be a vital link in

WORDS TO KNOW

Carnival:

Normally used interchangeably, and incorrectly, with Mardi Gras. Carnival refers to the long celebration which begins 12 days after Christmas and ends on Mardi Gras. The word is derived from Latin, "carne" meaning flesh and "vale" meaning farewell, to signal the start of the Lenten fasting season.

Krewe:

The name given the Carnival organizations which stage the parades and masked balls. Attendance at the balls is by invitation only.

Mardi Gras:

Also known as Shrove Tuesday, this is the culmination of the Carnival season. It falls the day before Ash Wednesday when the 40-day penitential season of Lent begins.

drawing us together for a common good.

Sincerely,
 Carls Dawson
 Proud Resident of Soulard

Many block captains along with 15 other residents responded to this call. They will be assisting with the door to door distribution of *The Renaissance*.



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"A Different Kind of Adventure"

by Jay Gibbs

It was a Saturday evening in early December, and as Chris and I embarked on our monthly turn on Mobile Patrol, we expected the usual quiet, uneventful evening. Boy, were we wrong.

For those of you not in the know, the Souldard Neighborhood Mobile Patrol consists of two to four persons per night driving along the streets and alleys of Souldard, watching for suspicious activity and reporting burned-out streetlights and other such security hazards. Most of the time the highest drama one encounters during an evening is a startled alley cat jumping from a dumpster. This lack of excitement is a credit to the existence of the Mobile Patrol and to the stability of the Souldard area generally.

So, there we were: It was Saturday night, we were driving around aimlessly, and I was missing a new episode of "Star Trek—The Next Generation." To liven the evening Chris' wife Vicki and my fiancée Carla had accompanied us in our epic search for crime, and for an open donut shop. To pass the hours we dredged up every TV cop show quip and cliché in memory: "Hey! Hey! Hey! Let's be careful out there." "One Adam Twelve, One Adam Twelve! There is a male subject drinking a beer at 9th and Geyer!" It wasn't that we didn't take patrolling seriously, but rather that we were witnessing perhaps the quietest Saturday night in Souldard's history. Then it happened.

As we cruised east on Emmet Street we saw a man getting into a car. The only glitch in that innocuous scene was that it looked like my sister Julie's car. We stopped in the street a little ahead and to the left of the parked car, which I still could not positively identify.

As we sat there indecisively, the car started, its lights came on, the driver gave us a single honk of the horn, and he abruptly pulled out behind our vehicle and started up an alley. Once the license plate was visible, my adrenalin soared and I shouted, "That's my sister's car!"

We started to follow the retreating taillights at about a half-block distance. Our silly mood of a minute before was replaced by serious attention, and by stunned indignation; we couldn't believe what we were seeing!

After a couple of blocks the thief must have noticed us, because at 8th and Souldard Streets he suddenly began to speed away.

Wouldn't you know it, out of nowhere appeared an ancient, rusting clunker wheezing along about 8 mph. The heap came between us and Julie's car in a scene reminiscent of the TV shows we'd been lampooning all evening. The last we saw of her car was as it sped northbound on 7th Street past Souldard Market.

All this time I had been frantically trying to call the police on the mobile phone, but the phone kept comically redialing Chris and Vicki's answering machine, which had been our test number a couple of hours ago. In my hyper frustration I wanted to fling the phone through the windshield; instead I handed the thing to Carla and Vicki.

At that moment we happened upon a cruising Third District police car, which we hailed with blinking headlights and flailing arms. Both cars stopped in midstreet.

"We just saw a car theft!" we shouted breathlessly at the officer.

"When? Where?" the officer inquired with irritating casualness.

"Just now! My sister's car! From Emmet Street! Going north on

Broadway!" we all were blurting simultaneously.

"How do you know it was stolen?" he drawled, bored and unconvinced, as traffic began to jam up around us on 9th Street.

"We saw it happen! We're on Souldard Mobile Patrol! Aren't you familiar with our patrol?"

He offered that he wasn't, and he shifted his weight with a loud sigh of annoyance. "Go over this again," he grunted dejectedly as he searched for his notebook.

Frustrated by his grudging interest, we asked, "Do you want us to call it in ourselves?"

"Yes, do that," said the cop with his first sign of animation. He rolled up his window and cruised on.

At my house, we called 911 and a policeman responded within 6 minutes. Officer Heagley was friendly, supportive, and interested in our story, a welcome contrast from the previous officer. He took our statements, called it in, and then left to examine the spot where the stolen car had been parked. This officer had not heard of our Mobile Patrol either; we all agreed as we ended our night of patrolling that our efforts needed more exposure with the rank and file police.

At 4:30 a.m. that same night, Julie got a call from Officer Heagley. Her car had been found. Within one hour of the theft, the car was on the

"hot sheet" of every police department in the metro region. The Venice, Illinois police spotted the car, gave chase, and when the perp drove over some railroad tracks at 70 mph a tire blew and he couldn't flee further. The car careened into someone's front yard on 29th Street in East St. Louis, where the thief jumped out and ran.

The police didn't catch the miserable cockroach, but they recovered the car and a color TV stowed in the backseat. Apparently he had committed a burglary somewhere after he left Souldard.

The next morning Julie and I viewed her car in a tow lot in Madison, Illinois. The right rear window had been broken to gain entry, and the steering column had been torn asunder to start the car.

The sympathetic lot owner demonstrated by pulling a small switch on the opened steering column, and the car started easily!

Julie got her repaired car back a couple of weeks later. She credits the Souldard Mobile Patrol for its rapid retrieval; she would not have otherwise even discovered the crime until the next day. My own parting observation in that same vein is that although driving on Neighborhood Patrol is pretty dull most of the time, it can become interesting very quickly. As we found out, the Mobile Patrol *does* make a difference!

Mardi Gras Retrospective

Top 1988; Bottom 1989



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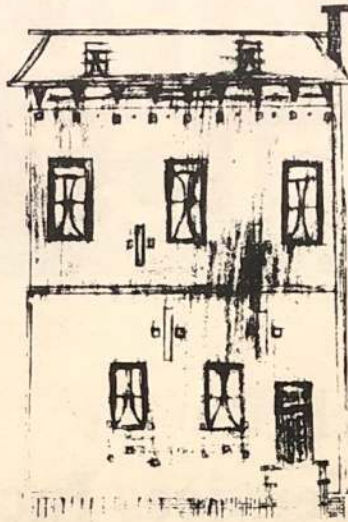
KIDS INVOLVED IN SOULARD

According to teacher Donna Halsband, students at Humboldt V.P.A.M. will participate in a papermaking workshop with artist-in-residence, Melanie Daniels. Students will create three-dimensional houses in handmade paper using architectural elements from the Soulard neighborhood. They will also make invitations for their culminating exhibit to be held at Taproots School for the Arts, 4021 Iowa, on March 3, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

This workshop is a component of their extensive "learning from your environment" architectural awareness program sponsored by the American Institute of Architects.

Financial assistance for the arts in education residency program is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Missouri Arts Council and The Partnership Program, St. Louis Public Schools through the Missouri Arts Education Task Force.

For further information contact Donna Halsband at 772-3164 or at home 822-8665.



A drawing by Diada Linear which may serve as lead-in to a project of the art students at Humboldt V.P.A.M.



Mardi Gras Retrospective

Top 1987; Bottom 1988



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- Talent in Souldard - - Sheryl Walker -

by Elaine Wright

When Sheryl Walker first told me she was a painter, I feigned great interest, all the while imagining paint-by-numbers portraits of geese and landscapes worthy of "Starving Artists" sales (you know, those sales held at Ramada Inns: "No painting costs more than \$19.95). So I was in for a great surprise when I finally saw Sheryl's work. In contrast to my initial response to Sheryl's revelation, I thought, "She is not just a painter, but an artist!"

Sheryl's painting career began humbly with a tote painting class. (For those of you who are not familiar, tote painting is the art form that produces all those cute little ducks with hats or other accessories painted on wood blocks. My first—and only—effort was an apple, which an objective observer could have surmised only if told that it is a fruit, that it comes in varieties such as Jonathan and Granny Smith and that it makes a great pie.) It was only through a friend's persistent prodding that Sheryl even agreed to go to the first class. "I was so terrified," Sheryl recalls, "that I phoned my friend on the morning of the class, and told her I couldn't go." But her friend wouldn't take no for an answer and Sheryl reluctantly attended.

Sheryl's first efforts were not, she admits, exactly inspiring. The initial class resulted in a painting of a tulip, which Sheryl describes as "the grossest thing in the world." (Sheryl still keeps some of her earliest work "just to keep me humble.") Sheryl nevertheless enjoyed painting and continued with her classes.

Sheryl took classes from a number of teachers, switching to the next when she became better than the latest teacher. Eventually, one of her teachers asked Sheryl to teach classes. But the real turning point for Sheryl came when she began studying (note the change from "taking classes" to "studying") with Bob Byerley of Kansas City. Sheryl's introduction to Mr. Byerley came about as a result of Sheryl's observation of the great improvement being made by an artist friend. When Sheryl inquired of her friend as to her secret, her friend introduced her to Mr. Byerley, who agreed to take Sheryl on as a student.

This, says Sheryl, was when she really began to learn technique. Sheryl studied with Mr. Byerley for five years, at which point he told Sheryl he had taught her all he could and it was time for her to go out on her own.

In fact, Sheryl received one of her first commissions via Mr. Byerley. A woman approached Mr. Byerley to paint a portrait, but couldn't afford his rates. He then referred the woman to Sheryl, who, with much trepidation, agreed to undertake the work. Much to Sheryl's relief, the woman was very pleased with the result.

Almost all of the work Sheryl sells comes as a result of commissions, typically for a portrait. And most of these commissions are generated by word-of-mouth. "Displaying your art at shows is too much work," explains Sheryl. The art show routine would also interfere with Sheryl's top priority: her family. "Right now, I'm a full-time mother and I will be at least until my children (Meeghan, age 13 and Cooper, age 11) are in high school," says Sheryl. As a result, Sheryl usually paints during school hours and late in the evening.

Sheryl admits that the demands of daily life sometimes prevent her from painting as much as she'd like. "For me, painting is like going to another world. I become so focused I completely lose track of time." Indeed, Sheryl says she has painted up to twelve hours in a single stretch. Fortunately for Sheryl, her family is very supportive of her work. "In fact," Sheryl says, "it was Chris (her husband) who insisted that we move to Kansas City so that I could study with Mr. Byerley."

Sheryl describes her painting as being in the "old masters" style: dramatic lighting, a heavy use of reflections, strong contrasts between dark and light. Sheryl further explains that she's a "realist." She prefers doing paintings with people in them over still lifes and landscapes (although her current commission is for a landscape). Most of all, Sheryl loves painting surrealistic scenes. One of Sheryl's favorite works shows her daughter, Meeghan, blowing bubbles from which tiny fairies are emerging. Sheryl's favorite artist is William Adolph Bouguereau. "His paintings are so sensual. And they are so real, you want to reach into the painting. If I could paint half as well as him, I'd die happy."

For Sheryl, the most exciting part of doing a painting is the initial drawing on the canvas. "Because it is the most creative part." The worst part comes roughly halfway through the painting; at that point, the creative aspect is mostly over, but much work remains to be done to complete the painting. "It's like Thanksgiving leftovers: good, but nothing like the big feast," Sheryl



Sheryl Walker shown in her studio with "work-in-progress."

explains. As she nears completion of a painting, Sheryl picks up steam again, anticipating having a finished painting.

The moment when she presents a portrait to a client is a difficult one for Sheryl. "On the one hand, you feel good about what you've done; on the other hand, you're afraid your client will not like it and you're hounded by thoughts of what you might have done differently. No artist ever walks away from a work thinking it's as good as it can be. If you ever did reach that point, you will have stopped learning."

A typical portrait begins with a photography session with her subject. Sheryl insists on taking her own photographs, primarily because it provides her with an opportunity to get to know her subject. Sheryl feels very strongly that the portrait should reflect her subject's personality.

For example, Sheryl was once commissioned by a woman to paint a portrait of each of the woman's two daughters. The portraits were to be a Christmas gift to the woman's husband. When Sheryl arrived for the photography session, the daughters were both dressed in beautiful dresses. The oldest daughter was very shy, quiet, and reserved. In keeping with this personality, Sheryl's portrait of her portrayed a little girl with a somewhat somber expression on her face. The youngest daughter was a

"ball of fire." She couldn't sit still, and talked and smiled a lot. After a long photography session, Sheryl suggested they take a break. At this point, the little girl told Sheryl how much she hated shoes and asked Sheryl if she could take them off. In the last photograph Sheryl took of her, the little girl sat Indian style with her feet peeking out from underneath her dress. Despite the reservations of the little girl's mother, this is the photograph upon which Sheryl based her portrait. Sheryl later discovered that the woman's husband loved the portraits so much that he cried when he saw them. For Sheryl, getting a reaction like that to her work is one of the greatest thrills of all.

Sheryl's portrait of daughter Meeghan. (below)



1991—The Facts and Figures

by Alan Richardson

"Soulard heads for record breaking year!" So the caption ran in our last issue of *The Renaissance*. Well, was it a record breaker? In a word—yes. While most of the nation reeled under a real estate slump, Soulard sold. And it sold in numbers better than some boom years! In total, 33 properties sold with five of them still to close. Total value of properties closed was almost \$2 million.

And here's what you really wanted to know ... addresses and prices! I've also added the number of days the property was on the market before it sold.

Address	List Price	Days On Market
1219 Sidney	\$ 59,500	116
1927 S. 9th	58,000	58
720 Lami	65,000	19
826 Ann	75,000	2
2346 S. 13th	89,900	55
2416 S. 18th	89,900	134
2117 S. 13th	109,900	74
2359 S. 12th	109,000	39
1309 Sidney	119,900	33
2312 S. 13th	39,900	99
908 Lami	55,000	21
1226 Sidney	69,900	41
909 Allen	72,900	123
1304 Shenandoah	79,900	61
818 Ann	89,900	42
820 Ann	66,500	1
810 Ann	89,900	121
916 Russell	35,000	65
2354 S. 10th	39,500	5
2314 S. 12th	89,900	27
2421 S. 13th	82,500	53
725 1/2 Shenandoah	79,500	65
1842 S. 10th	75,000	118
2354 S. 10th (R)	59,950	129
1826 S. 8th	120,000	10
925 Ann	69,900	57
2008 S. 11th	52,900	56
1831 S. 8th	37,500	362

So why did Soulard sell so well in 1991? And why is it continuing to sell so well at this moment? (We're experiencing a very busy January, with at least two properties under contract in the first 10 days of the month!)

1. Good Pricing

Some analysts have said in effect that there is no such thing as a bad real estate market. People are always going to relocate. First time buyers are always buying—if the price is right! If your house isn't selling they will tell you therefore that it's a matter of price. While this is a little hard-headed, there is certainly a measure of truth in it. Property values in Soulard have become attractively realistic in the past year. While these values may be down on where they were headed two and three years ago, it's where the market is selling—so the price is right! Good pricing benefitted the neighborhood by attracting young families and single professionals into the community with more affordable housing. Added to that, prices have been down in the metro area across the board, so while sellers may have sold for less, they have also bought for less when they've relocated. Net result: Little or no loss.

2. Type of property.

Soulard has an excellent stock and diversity of housing ranging from shells, to fixer uppers, to attractively rehabbed and priced townhouses, to larger family homes beautifully restored. In reality, you would never be able to build one of these homes for what you could buy them for. One of the problems I frequently face when relocating folk to the county is that, frankly, they can't find anywhere near the value and quality of home that they are leaving behind! If you reverse that, folks moving in from the county, other parts of the metro area or out of state are almost always both surprised and impressed by what they find here! The only typical complaint is "Where's the garage?" So if you're thinking of how you can improve your property's marketability, build a garage.

3. Neighborhood.

Yet price, style, and quality are never enough. Ask any real estate expert what are the three determining factors in real estate values and you will be told ... "Location ... location ... location!!" Soulard is one of the most clearly defined of the historic neighborhoods. House hunters frequently comment on this. These are some of the other things I hear them saying about Soulard. "It has such a great neighborhood feel" ... "People go out of their way to be friendly" ... "I love the sidewalks and streets" ... "It feels a very 'safe' neighborhood" ... "I see kids playing in the streets and on the parks, women jogging, walking their dogs, families out for strolls." Soulard is a village within a city. It is unique. It has an excellent blend culturally, racially and of age. And it's a blend that seems to work.

4. Finances.

I forecast back at the end of last summer that we would see rates coming below 9%. Will they go lower? It's hard to say at this moment. The Federal Reserve may well lower the prime rate—we're running up to presidential elections! But long term? Unlikely. Most of the folk I speak to are anticipating a hike in rates after the elections with the probability of double figures within the year. Why? The nation is in

debt. It can be paid off by an increase in taxes to raise cash, or a hike in interest rates to attract cash from overseas. We may get both! Or of course, I could be wrong on both counts, but whatever else, I believe we're certainly heading for a time when we'll all have to tighten our belts! So now is a great time to buy or sell—or if you are in there for the long haul, get refinanced to a competitive rate—assumable if at all possible.

(Alan is a realtor living Soulard and working out of the Mary King brokerage on Menard.)

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MEET YOUR NEW NEIGHBOR

"Moving Southeast" by Marilyn Wiethop



All good things come to those who wait, or so they say. Well, I have waited a long time to move back to the city and I have finally arrived.

I was brought up as a child on Grand and Hebert, and as time moved on so did my parents. It seemed as though it was always west. Before I knew it some 44 years later (much to my dismay) I had ended up in Chesterfield, which is just east of Kansas City. All social life had come to an end. No one wanted to make the long trek out Highway 40 to visit unless it was a national holiday. It seemed like they always expected me to drop by, but there was no way they were going to drive "out there."

In three years I had met one family and had a nodding relationship with another. This is not my idea of community life.

I had wanted to move back to the city in the late 60s, but for one reason or another something always stood in my way. It was when the kids are out of grade school, when the kids are out of high school, when the real estate market gets better. I finally became tired of waiting. My husband was not quite as eager to give up his Chesterfield Estate, complete with Japanese Garden and pond as I was, but somehow he gave in and traded his big house for the wonders of renting a flat in Soulard.

We have furniture stored everywhere—parents' basements and daughters' apartments. Good God, where are my Christmas decorations?

Things have gone pretty well since the move. My husband has started talking to me again and we are frequent visitors to all the Soulard pubs. It is really nice to go out for the evening and not have to drive. We have joined the SRG, and have worked at the VP Fair and the House Tour. He no longer sits up at night and watches his car to make sure no one steals it, so I feel we have come a long way.

Some things have stayed the same. The family still came down for Thanksgiving Dinner. Though there was not as much room as before it was very cozy. After dinner we took a wonderful walk through the brewery to see the lights. This was especially nice since my father-in-law and his brother were both long-time employees of Anheuser Busch.

Now that we have been here for six months we have another decision to make—where to buy before the tax man takes all our money. We have looked at several rehabber specials in the neighborhood, and they all look great to me because it's not only the neighborhood—it's the neighbors.

Hope to see you all for a long time. It's a great place to live.

A MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN PAGE

St. Louis Metropolitan Police Dept.

I would like to reflect back on my first year as Captain of the Third District. Upon coming to the Third District last December the thing that impressed me the most was the organization found in the various neighborhoods. Every neighborhood in the Third District was represented by at least one Neighborhood Organization. All of the organizations were active and Officer Shoemaker had an accurate list of leaders for those organizations.

This not only made the transition much easier but has been very beneficial for myself and the St. Louis Police Department. We had a good representation of these various organizations at our Third District Public Affairs Meeting and I am happy to say that the representation has only gotten better. Our present board consists of people who are very active in their own neighborhoods and have some very good ideas for our Public Affairs Organization.

The next 3rd District Public Affairs meeting is scheduled for March 12 at 7 pm. It will be held at Gibson Heights Presbyterian Church at Taylor and Avon. The discussion topic will be "Crime Prevention by Urban Design."

SWINGIN' IN THE ABBEY

The Bel Canto Chorus of St. Louis will be Swingin' in the Abbey, and you're invited! At 7:00 p.m. on Friday, February 21, the Bel Canto Chorus will present at evening of Broadway's greatest music in the newly renovated and historic Ninth Street Abbey, 1808 South Ninth Street in Soulard. To complete the festive evening, a superb supper will be served by Patty Long Catering.

Tickets, including dinner, are \$35 per person. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 997-3992.

The Bel Canto Chorus of St. Louis, under the direction of Dr. Armand Kitto, is a non-audition chorus composed of music enthusiasts from all areas of metropolitan St. Louis. The Chorus performs traditional and contemporary works for audiences throughout our community. Spurred by the enjoyment of studying and performing good music and the constant quest for excellence, Bel Canto is committed to being a major contributor to the quality of musical arts in St. Louis for years to come.

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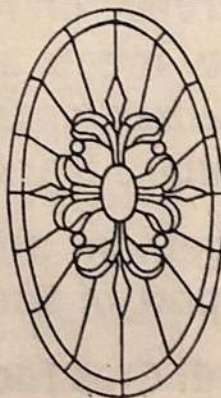


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Is It Love or Pigeons?

When I was in high school I took a speech course and needed to choose a short story, so I flipped through a book and came up with a Robert Benchley story called "Down with Pigeons." Never did I think that 30 years later these same pigeons would come back and haunt me.

It all started after the single young man upstairs moved out. The apartment did not rent right away and it was really quiet. The guy upstairs never made much noise and this was really bliss. We did kind of joke, however, that maybe next time we could get two bachelors moving out of mother's nest for the first time with a stream of young ladies in their rooms into all hours of the night. Or, we could get a budding cello player who practiced 'til dawn. How could we live through this? We were too old to be voyeurs and did not want anyone's nocturnal jousting going on over our heads.

After returning from vacation we were surprised to find we had a new set of neighbors above. The first morning their alarm went off at 4:45, could this be true? Was she a nurse on the early shift; could he also get up before dawn? Maybe, but

this could be good—early to bed, early to rise. Then came Saturday, my day to snooze. It was like a bad dream. 7:45—their radio alarm went on and did not go off. The music must have evoked warm thoughts, for soon we were subject to a primal call of love—and it wasn't even 8:00.

Now, we had not yet met these folks but somehow they became known as Thumper and Mona. Life went on. We both listened to the same radio stations, so that was not a problem. We just tuned into whatever they were listening to. But I could not get over how in love these two were. We could hear them everywhere at any time of the day. How would we ever be able to have a quiet dinner party again? What would the family think at Christmas breakfast? I guess we would just have to play loud background music.

Seeing them outside in the yard was difficult; we could hardly look them in the eye knowing them as well as we did. What if my husband said "Good morning, Mona," or I said, "Hey, Thumper." Therefore, we limited ourselves to short nods and "How are you two doing?" We knew



how they were doing and how many times a day.

Now to bring us back to the pigeons, I knew they would catch up with me someday. I had after all spent my entire junior year telling any speech class that would listen how horrible they were, and now it was their turn.

My college age daughter was home for the weekend, and of course I had to tell her the story of Thumper and Mona. She thought this was very funny, and as luck would have it, while she was in my room, we were treated to a late morning joust. She was indeed very amused. Later that afternoon we heard them again, this time in the living room—but wait, their apartment is laid out differently from ours and they are not over our living room—no one was. Was this old house haunted, could it be the rambling of the souls of long lost tenants who never made it into the next world?

Then I heard those reassuring words from my daughter, "Mother, you fool, those are pigeons." No, could she be right? She said I was getting old and losing it. We went outside and sure enough, a large pile of droppings

THE MARKET PLACE

The Market Place will be a feature beginning in the next issue of the paper. The article will provide a spot for anyone to place a buy, sell or trade ad. No business ads will be accepted. The ad will be limited to 25 words or 4 lines. The cost will be \$5.00 for a Soulard Restoration Group member or \$10.00 for a non-member.

The following are examples:

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY — Deidre K., Love, Don

Need information on The BOP? Call Chuck 771-6529.

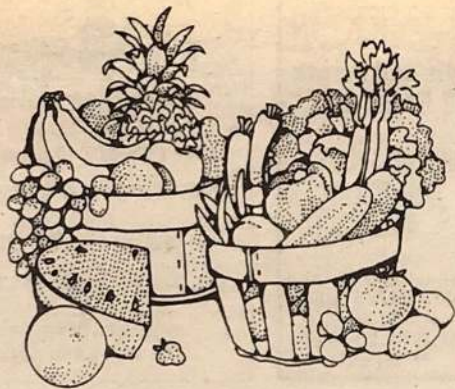
Call Dave Lewis to volunteer for Crime Patrol 664-0284.

To place your ad call Kathy Coker 771-6529.

were but a few feet from my front room and down the hall between the two buildings was another large deposit right by my bedroom.

Was it the pigeons all along? Was there no great love between Thumper and Mona? Could it just have been those dirty birds all along? I hope not. Let's hope that just living in Soulard brings out the romance in all of us.

—A Soulard Resident



Soulard

Farmers' Market

1601 South 7th Street

Since 1779

It's a bountiful harvest of fresh-picked produce, oven-fresh baked goods, quality meats and fish, dairy products, plus a pet shop and two restaurants, 100 plus merchants operating 250 stalls in historic Soulard Market.

The Soulard management and merchants thank you for your patronage and support of Soulard Market.

See us first for Mardi Gras food and supplies.

BON APPÉTIT — New Business in Soulard

by Tom French, Owner

SOULARD—!! What a great place to live ... Martha's family has roots in this neighborhood that go back to the late 1920s. Average rents were \$8 month and most houses had no indoor plumbing. Transplanted from Southeast Missouri to New Orleans, my love of St. Louis evolved not only from childhood memories of coming to the ballpark, but also from a few years of stopping over in St. Louis as a crew member of the Delta Queen Steamboat (which is incidentally where Martha and I met—she was a passenger).

This is the second time we have made Soulard our home. Once a few years back and most recently after a two year hiatus in the country for health reasons.

When we decided to return to St. Louis, there was never any question where we would move. Soulard offers charm, history and a sense of continuity. It's a big world out there and the neighborhood affords us the opportunity to shape and direct our own corner of it.

We are excited about our little corner at 11th & Barton Streets, known as Bon Appetit. Our goal is to carry on the tradition of small corner businesses that provide services for the neighborhood. Right now we offer gourmet deli foods, fresh breads, coffees, teas, pastries and a variety of interesting food related items as well as catering services.

Many of our products are what we term environmentally safe and socially sound, meaning that they do no harm to our physical environment and that a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of the product are dedicated to positive change. A large portion of the items we



Martha and Tom French of Bon Appetit.

sell are Agri-Mo. Products—high quality goods supplied to us by small, many times rural businesses.

Our future plans include a small gourmet restaurant on one side of our building along with cooking classes, field trips, and continual expansion of our deli.

The most rewarding aspect of opening this business has been the many people we have met so far. Vibrant, positive, active people. People who are interested in maintaining a community that is progressive, diverse, safe, and most importantly—enjoyed by its residents.

We hope to enhance the enjoyment of life to our customers and many new friends in the years to come.

BON APPÉTIT!!



BON APPÉTIT
IN HISTORIC SOULARD
2401 S. 11th

COFFEES - ESPRESSO - CAPPUCCINO
FINE PASTRIES
SOUPS ~ SALADS ~ SANDWICHES
GOURMET BOX LUNCHES
DELIVERY AVAILABLE

NOW SERVING YOU WITH
SUNDAY BRUNCH!!
RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED

JOIN US FOR DINNER
FAT TUESDAY ~ MARCH 3rd

Le Bon Temp Route!!

TUES - SAT - 7 AM - 8 PM

SUN - 7 AM - 4 PM

BRUNCH - 10 AM - 2 PM

PHONE# ~ FAX#

664-9264 ~ 664-DELI

The 1992 Soulard Restoration Group Board of Directors are pictured to the left. They are (from left):

- Standing: Kathy Duckworth
Chuck Coker
Elaine Wright
Nancy Adams—Treasurer
Sue Varner—Secretary
- Kneeling: Carlis Dawson—Editor
Jeanne Weber—Vice President
Gary Siddens
Charles Ryburn
- Seated: Richard Eaton—President

LIVING LARGE

by Fat Tuesday

With the onset of Mardi Gras we thought it may be a good idea to offer a few ideas for Gumbo. The first is a simple recipe that is not too hot and full of tomato flavor. Always best served with cornbread. Don't be lazy and make those Martha White packages. Be good to yourself and buy some Quaker Yellow Corn Meal and follow the directions on the back. It takes five minutes longer and tastes five times better.

- 2 T. flour
- 2 T. vegetable oil
- 1 large onion
- 1 small red pepper
- 1 clove garlic
- Large can whole peeled tomatoes (chopped)



- 1 small can tomato paste
- 3 cups water
- 1 10 oz. frozen okra (thawed)
- 1 T. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 t. salt
- 1 T. sugar
- 1 bay leaf
- 3 drops hot sauce (more if you like)
- 1/2 t. dried crushed basil
- Use any combination of the following to equal 1 1/2 lb.:
- 1/2 lb. shrimp
- 1/2 lb. crab chunks
- 1/2 lb. smoked sausage
- 1/2 lb. oysters
- 1/2 lb. white fish

In heavy dutch oven mix oil and flour to make a roux. Add onion, red pepper and garlic (I use the minced kind that comes in a jar). Stir until tender. Pile in your tomatoes, paste, water, Worcestershire, salt, pepper sauce, sugar, bay leaf and basil. Simmer, uncovered 30-40 minutes. While all this is going on you can make your cornbread and maybe a small salad and set the table. Now add your shrimp, oysters and crab, or whatever you have chosen, simmer another 10 minutes and stir in your okra and serve over cooked rice. This is a nice easy dish to make and even the kids will enjoy it.

This next recipe is very different from the first. It is more traditional and very good. I have taken a little from three other recipes to come up with this one.

- 1 lb. smoked sausage
- 2 lbs. chicken
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 cup peanut oil
- 1 large red pepper (or green)
- 1 large onion
- 3 stalks celery
- 2 or 3 cloves garlic
- 2 qts. chicken stock (canned, cubed or the real thing)
- 2 bay leaves
- 1/2 t. basil
- 1/2 t. poultry seasoning
- 1 1/2 T. Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 T. hot sauce

Brown sausage in small amount of the oil and remove. Add remaining oil and brown chicken. Remove chicken from skillet and add flour to make a roux. Cook roux until it is a nice medium brown color. Add vegetables and garlic, cook until vegetables are tender. Put chicken stock and vegetable mix together in a large dutch oven and stir until the stock starts to thicken. Add seasonings and simmer for about an hour. Add chicken and sausage. I like to bone the chicken but you do not have to. You can also throw in a little okra for color but this is also optional. Spoon the gumbo over your rice and sprinkle with a little filé. *Laissez les bon temps rouler!* (Let the good times roll.)

THE SOULARD RECYCLING CO-OP IS FINALLY UP AND RUNNING

Instructions are available by calling the number below. In order to expedite our pick-up efforts, we ask that your recyclables be prepared in the following manner: Newspaper — bundled in piles not to exceed 12", in paper or plastic bags, or twined; Glass — bagged and separated by color (brown, colored, clear); Aluminum Cans — bagged; Cardboard — broken down into flat pieces; Plastic — bagged (soda and milk jugs only). Your cooperation is appreciated. Have questions? Want to join? Want to volunteer? Call Terry Hoffman at 664-2803.

\$500.00 REWARD

Keep in mind the \$500.00 reward for the person or persons who provide a tip leading to the arrest and conviction of a perpetrator of crime in Soulard. Those with a tip should call the Reward Line: 621-3811. Information supplied through the Reward Line can be kept confidential if you request this. So far, two rewards have been presented.

SOULARD SOAP LAUNDROMAT

- DRY CLEANING
- DROP-OFF LAUNDRY
- 8-HOUR WORKDAY TURNAROUND FOR LAUNDRY
- ATTENDANT ON DUTY
- OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK



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Gras
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St. Louis, Mo.

... in Historic Soulard

SECRETARY'S CORNER

by Susan A. Varner, Secretary
Soulard Restoration Group

Midwinter greetings to all! Following is my Reader's Digest version of events at the last two membership and board meetings.

At the **Membership Meeting on December 4**, 42 people were present, which included 7 visitors. Ron D'Aloia reported on the Holiday Parlor Tour, scheduled for December 7 and 8.

Carlis Dawson received a round of applause for a great first edition of *The Renaissance* under his leadership.

Bob Kraiberg asked for tax-deductible contributions to the off duty police patrol project. \$1200 per month is needed to provide this service. A fundraising event is being planned for the patrol at the 9th Street Abbey after Mardi Gras '92.

Discussion continued on the Soulard Market parking lot proposal. Members of the Committee to Save Soulard Market Park presented their position. Cynthia Meiners made a motion to send a letter to the Soulard Market Manager stating that the SRG has no position, is waiting for final plans and is open to opinions from all sides.

The social was held at the home of Michael Orlando—great red accents in the kitchen and a beautiful Christmas tree!

The **Annual Organizational Board Meeting**, held on **December 11** was graciously hosted by Kathy Duckworth and Bob Kraiberg. The budgets for all

committees were discussed and approved. Various events for the coming year were outlined, including ideas for variations on past events. Names for new committee chairmen and liaisons were mentioned.

55 people attended the **Membership Meeting** held on **January 8**, including 7 visitors. (Good turnout, don't you think?) Out-going Treasurer Cindy Harrison presented the year-end report. The Annual Board Meeting Report was approved.

Beautification Committee Chairman Mary Sheridan announced that the committee is looking for more planting areas such as the one on Sidney Street. Since the passing of the new standards, the duties and responsibilities of the Coding & Zoning Committee may change, according to Chairman Fred Andres. A photographic record of all Soulard properties is planned, which should prove helpful should zoning questions or property disputes take place.

Crime Prevention Chairman Bob Kraiberg reported that 70 people are presently active in the mobile patrol. The present balance of the off-duty police patrol fund is \$2,000. Bob has also spoken with Captain Page and the Director of the Boys' Club. It is felt that through participation in club activities, neighborhood youths are more likely to stay out of mischief.

Residential Promotion Chairman Gary Siddens announced that Tina Edwards would assist him in his duties.

Changes in the House Tour format are anticipated, and members' suggestions for changes are welcome.

Membership/Special Events Liaison Chuck Coker announced planned changes in the membership dues structure. A special lower fee is available for senior citizens.

Fundraising Chairman Kathy Siddens announced a goal of \$30,000 to \$32,000 for the year, most of which will go towards the Information Center.

Ways and Means Liaison Nancy Adams is looking for a chairman for this committee. The main project is the VP fair booth. Entertainment books are still on sale for \$30.

Information Center Building contractor John Durnell explained the construction phases and detailed the construction work and costs. He then asked for volunteers to help with the remaining interior cleanup.

Vice President Jeanne Weber gave a thorough explanation of the budgets for each committee and asked for and received the membership approval of the Budget Summary and Proposal for 1992. Rod Wright and Fred Andres will represent the SRG at the next meeting of the coalition committee for Soulard Market Park on the parking lot question. Cecelia Andres reported that the building permits process has been greatly streamlined from several weeks to one day in most cases, or 1 to 2 weeks for more complicated permits.

The social was held at 1827 S. 9th, a home owned by Jim Heidenry which is

presently being rehabbed and is for sale.

The **January Board Meeting** was held on January 15 at the home of Charles Ryburn, Tommy Phillips and their dog Maggie (who really owns the house).

Gary Reed, Manager of Scarlett's bar on Lafayette Street, presented his case for the Board's support of his petition for a 3:00 a.m. liquor license. Although the Board decided not to support his request, they will send Gary Reed a letter of appreciation for his support of SRG activities and neighborhood promotion.

Membership/Special Events Liaison Chuck Coker presented the following motion: "I move to consider a yearly dues increase to \$30 for a household membership, \$18 for an individual membership, \$12 for a non-voting membership, and \$1 for senior citizens." Gary Siddens seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Prorating of dues was also approved. Kathy Duckworth made a motion, "I move to amend Article I Section 1A of the bylaws to include the words ... owners of businesses in Soulard ... Chuck Coker seconded the motion. The vote was 8 yes, 1 abstain, with the motion to be brought before the membership at the next meeting. President Richard Eaton reported that Citicorp will be donating an IBM computer and printer to the SRG. Jeanne Weber suggested that the committee meetings for each month be listed on the back of the membership meeting agenda. A proposal was made by Gary Siddens to revise the SRG stationery letterhead. Discussion was held on establishing an official SRG logo. The meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.



Join the SOULARD RESTORATION GROUP

- Be a part of the Neighborhood Association of Historic Soulard
- Have a voice in what happens in YOUR community
- Make new friends

Sign me up as a member of SRG

- _____ \$30 Family
- _____ \$18 Individual
- _____ \$12 Non-Voting
- _____ \$1 Senior

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Return to: Soulard Restoration Group
P.O. Box 13312
Soulard Station
St. Louis, MO 63157

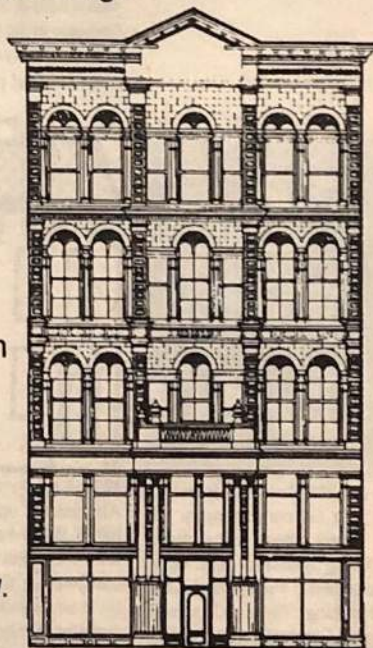
(Voting members must live in or own property/business in the Soulard Historic District)

PRESERVATION PLAN ON IT

Planning on restoring a house, saving a landmark, reviving your neighborhood?

Gain a wealth of experience and help preserve our historic and architectural heritage. Join the National Trust for Historic Preservation and support preservation efforts in your community.

Write:
National Trust for
Historic Preservation
Department PA
1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036



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RICHARDSON
772-4097**King**RAND
JULIANO
776-0003**King**KEVIN
PYSZ
441-3011**King**BILL
KING
772-1706**King**

1814 So. 8th : Originally built around 1845, this pretty soulard townhome has been thoughtfully restored with 3 bedrooms and 1.5 baths. Off street parking, central air new bathrooms and kitchen. Lovely location on one of Soulards prettiest streets. \$76,500



1827 So. 8th. Beautiful Soulard victorian home. Original woodwork, marble fireplaces, pocket doors, 12 ft. ceilings, gorgeous millwork, eight ft. doors, huge unfinished 3rd floor! Yard with space for garage. 3+ beds 1.5 baths. Needs updating. \$57,500



2415 So. 11th : How about this for a unique home! Romanesque architecture, lots of light (22 windows!) double wide lot, garage, 4+ bedrooms, 2 baths, tastefully restored and updated. All for under \$110,000!!



1010 Geyer : Beautiful Soulard home, currently two family. Ideal for owner occupier or could convert. Gorgeous yard with sunken patio, double garage. Galley kitchen, super rathskellar. Zoned C/A and heating. Third floor master suite. A real quality rehab in an excellent location. \$135,000.



1925 So. 9th : Totally unique city home, New Orleans style! Delightful mews entry way. Fantastically finished floors! Gorgeous European fitted kitchen, lovely side porch. Original master suite overlooking 9th and Allen with W/B stove. A stunning and character filled property for only \$98,500.



910 Geyer : Perfect location, presently two family, but it can be turned back to a single family. Owner wants offer... \$35,000.



2215 Menard : Lovely location on scenic corner lot. Gorgeous yard with shaded patio. Beautifully updated and totally rehabbed with 4 beds & 2.5 baths. There's a fireplace in the master bed, a super kitchen, family room with w/b fireplace covered porches. \$119,000.



1929 So. 9th : Great Soulard townhouse with all new systems, hardwood floors, Euro style kitchen, basement storage, central air and heating, skylight, one bedroom, one bath. Sold with all appliances including washer and dryer. Perfect bachelor or bachelorette pad. \$47,250.



2108 So. 9th : Contemporary 2 family rehab. Real quality work has gone into this one with imaginative floor plans. Each with 1+ bed 1.5 baths, livingroom, kitchen, dining, study. There's a private enclosed courtyard and master suites. Downstairs unit rented at \$425. \$74,900.



2208 So. 9th : Dramatic 110 year old home with new systems rehabbed by a professional contractor. 3 beds, 2.5 baths, fabulous Art Deco kitchen with restaurant stove, jacuzzi in master bath, full third floor guest suite. Fenced courtyard overlooking the park, 2 decks and woodburning fireplace. \$110,000.



1222 & 1226 Russell : Beautiful three year old contemporary rehab! Pastel colors, lots of light! Easy living open floor plan. Great kitchen/diner. Pretty yard. Off street parking. Three bedrooms & 1.5 baths, Central Electric cooling with humidifier and gas forced air heating. \$75,000 & \$86,000.



1227 Lami : Soulard Charmer! All systems updated, custom rehab 3 BR 2 bath. Finished third floor with great cityscape, window seats, wet bar. Contemporary kitchen, tilt in new windows, woodburning stove in family room, lots of exposed brick, cozy family room right off kitchen. \$98,500.



2322 So. 9th : Very nice rehab with lots of charm and character. 2+ bedrooms 1.5 baths, hardwood floors, wood stove, walk in pantry, fenced yard, finished Lower Level, over size bath, expandable third floor, 10 foot ceilings, double side porch. \$79,900.



2112 Allen : True Victorian home with lots of charm and old world character. Large elegant dining room, crystal chandelier, built in china cabinet, 10 foot ceilings, woodstove, handpainted woodgrained entry, very well maintained, all systems updated. 3+ BR 1.5 baths. \$74,500.



1224 Sidney : Exceptional rehab of 19th century Soulard townhouse. Contemporary, yet retaining its character, woodburning fireplace, skylights, open stairways, pretty yard, ready to move in. \$76,000.