



# The Souldard Renaissance

"The Neighborhood Magazine of Historic Souldard"

VOL. XVII — ISSUE 3

communicating the Renaissance of Souldard

SUMMER 1992

## Bastille Days

## Sixth Annual Bastille Days Celebration July 10-12

The 6th annual Bastille Days Celebration will begin Friday, July 10, at 6:00 p.m. in the Souldard Market Park. There will be live entertainment at the park and at all participating establishments. Souldard will turn into the "Streets of Paris" with sidewalk cafes, outside bars, street performers and special French foods. This mock Peasant Revolt will begin with the beheading of King Louis and Queen Marie Antoinette. Later in the evening a Missouri Wine Taste will feature wines from six Missouri wineries.

What is Bastille Day? A French holiday. It is like our Independence Day, a celebration of democracy with historical roots in revolution. The violence which occurred in the overthrow of King Louis XVI began an emigration of many Frenchmen of noble birth to America. Thus began another influx of the French to the St. Louis settlement.

Why a French holiday in an American city? Because of our strong French heritage, Souldard celebrates both Bastille Day and the 4th of July. French fur traders Pierre Laclède and his stepson August Chouteau established a trading post near the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers in 1764. The settlement that grew up around it was named after King Louis IX who was quite well respected by his fellow countrymen and sainted by the church. Now what is strange is France had made secret treaties with Spain and England to give the west side of the river to Spain and the east to Great Britain. The French immigrants preferred Spanish rule and settled on the west bank. France regained control in 1800 and soon sold it to the United States in 1803. Not long after this, Mrs. Souldard donated the land on which we will celebrate for a Farmers Market Park.

(continued on page 4)

July 10,11,12,1992  
**SOULDARD**  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

SOULDARD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION • DESIGN AND ILLUSTRATION JACK L. SMITH



## NOTES FROM THE BRICK HOUSE

by  
Richard R. Eaton  
President, SRG

The Souland Restoration Group has been experiencing a strong spirit of cooperation this year evidenced by several noteworthy achievements which strengthen our organization and make Historic Souland a more attractive neighborhood.

The recent successful Crime Prevention Fundraiser surpassed the \$8,000 mark. The spirit of cooperation throughout the Souland neighborhood was significant with this event and it illustrated what can happen when everyone works for a common cause.

The Operation Brightside project at the Souland Market Plaza was another example of a cooperative effort. More than 35 individuals helped create two attractive gardens on Brightside Saturday. In addition to eight trees donated by Alderman Phyllis Young, the SRG invested approximately \$800 toward the project. The SRG appreciated the cooperation of the St. Louis City Parks and Forestry Departments.

The SRG contribution of \$2,000 to the Lafayette Square Legal Fund was evidence of neighborhoods working together. Monetary and personal commitments toward a common goal had positive results when it was finalized that the St. Marys Honor Center would move north.

Good news of new members has raised spirits in our organization as 22 new SRG members have joined this year! Many of these individuals are now involved in making Souland a safer and more attractive neighborhood.

Continuation of cooperation is important as the 4th of July approaches. The profits from the SRG booth at the VP Fair will provide the means for more projects in our neighborhood. A strong spirit of cooperation is important and everyone is urged to help and enjoy the experience of another SRG project.

### NEW MEMBERS — JUNE 1992

Bob & Lillian Warren  
Micheal Murphy  
Lorrie Sattich  
Lisa & Dave Becker  
John Kelly  
Tonca Yarbrough  
Denise Elmore  
Steve McKenna



## Souland Restoration Group

Do you love living in Souland?

Would you like to meet more of your neighbors?

... then membership in the

**SOULAND 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 & Souland, at 7:30 p.m.

## EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

Pogo, the well known comic strip character, is famous for the line, "We have met the enemy and the enemy is us." True—but it works another way as well: "We have met the hero, and the hero is us." Heroes are made of the same varied mix of doubt and faith, fear and courage, lethargy and energy as any of us. What makes them successful is that they accent the positive. They believe, "If you can't solve a problem one way, find another." They dare to think great thoughts and to live them. Ralph Waldo Emerson put the idea clearly: "The seeds of god-like power are in us ... if we will."

Yes, if we *will* to be great, we—each of us—*can* be great. We can conquer, if we believe we can. This transforming power of will need not result in newspaper headlines and cover pages. Just getting through the day is often enough! There are crises every day, opportunities to go the extra mile or slack off, challenges to surmount or push

aside, principles to follow or disregard, kindness to perform or let perish.

Each of us can be a grass roots hero to our family, friends, business associates, neighbors, and fellow citizens. All it takes is the courage to follow our higher instincts, the thirst for what is right, just, and compassionate. The same principles the Creator made part of His creation and, therefore, part of each of us.

So, the next time you look into the mirror, see a hero. See yourself for what you *can* be. When you see what society calls a hero, remember ... he shares your faults as well as your strengths. Look at the balance, the big picture. Recognizing the imperfect, respecting the aspiration to make your little slice of Souland sweeter; join the heroes in that aspiration.

All of us can be heroes, are capable of greatness, it starts inside of you and me. Remember those who achieve ... believe!

—Carlis



## The Souland Renaissance

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

It is distributed to Souland residents, to Souland 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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St. Louis, MO 63157

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Proofreader: Nancy Adams

Production: H&M Desktop  
Publishing, Inc.

Printing: Etling Printing Co.

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### 1992 V.P. FAIR PROGRAM SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

#### FRIDAY, JULY 3

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 10:00 A.M. - NOON     | VEILED PROPHET PARADE            |
| NOON                  | V.P. FAIR OPENS                  |
| NOON - 1:30 P.M.      | McDONNELL DOUGLAS AIR SHOW       |
| 12:30 P.M.            | FAMILY FUN VILLAGE STAGE OPENS   |
| 2:00 P.M.             | BUDWEISER STAGE - OAK RIDGE BOYS |
| 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M. | McDONNELL DOUGLAS AIR SHOW       |
| 6:30 P.M.             | FAMILY FUN VILLAGE STAGE CLOSSES |
| 8:15 P.M.             | BUDWEISER STAGE - BEACH BOYS     |
| 9:45 P.M.             | BUD LIGHT FIREWORKS              |

FAIR CLOSSES AFTER FIREWORKS

#### SATURDAY, JULY 4 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 10:00 A.M.       | V.P. FAIR OPENS                  |
| 10:30 P.M.       | FAMILY FUN VILLAGE STAGE OPENS   |
| NOON - 1:30 P.M. | McDONNELL DOUGLAS AIR SHOW       |
| 2:00 - 3:30 P.M. | BUDWEISER STAGE - REO SPEEDWAGON |
| 5:30 - 6:30 P.M. | McDONNELL DOUGLAS AIR SHOW       |
| 6:30 P.M.        | FAMILY FUN VILLAGE STAGE CLOSSES |
| 8:15 P.M.        | BUDWEISER STAGE - PATTI LABELLE  |
| 9:45 P.M.        | BUD LIGHT FIREWORKS              |

FAIR CLOSSES AFTER FIREWORKS

#### SUNDAY, JULY 5

|                  |                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 7:30 A.M.        | DIET COKE/PET, INCORPORATED                     |
|                  | 10K RUN - OLD COURTHOUSE                        |
| 10:00 A.M.       | V.P. FAIR OPENS                                 |
| 10:00 A.M.       | SOUTHWESTERN BELL                               |
|                  | SENIOR'S HOSPITALITY AREA OPENS - CLARION HOTEL |
| 10:30 A.M.       | FAMILY FUN VILLAGE STAGE OPENS                  |
| NOON - 1:30 P.M. | McDONNELL DOUGLAS AIR SHOW                      |
| 2:30 - 4:00 P.M. | BUDWEISER STAGE - CHEAP TRICK                   |
| 6:30 P.M.        | FAMILY FUN VILLAGE STAGE CLOSSES                |
| 8:15 P.M.        | BUDWEISER STAGE - KENNY ROGERS                  |
| 9:45 P.M.        | BUD LIGHT FIREWORKS                             |

FAIR CLOSSES AFTER FIREWORKS

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## BASTILLE DAYS

(continued from page 1)

Saturday, July 11, Bastille Day will continue to mean fun! *Plaisanterie*—French for fun according to Joanie Thomas of 1860's Saloon, recently appointed liaison from the Soulard Business Association to the Soulard Restoration Group. The day kicks off with an Arts and Crafts Fair from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and free live music from many of St. Louis' hottest bands from noon to 6:00 p.m. Both events will be in the Soulard Market Park.

A "Taste of Soulard," sampling various French foods and drinks, will take place from noon to 5:00



Left: Joanie Thomas;  
Above: Tom Gullickson

p.m. Tickets and Tastes are available at all participating establishments.

Sunday, July 12, the Tour de Soulard Bicycle Race is held to cap off the weekend extravaganza. The streets will be blocked off and much excitement will abound as bicycles streak around Soulard. Fernest Arceneaux and the Tornados from Lafayette, LA will provide cajun and zydeco music free, live in the Market Park.

According to Tom Gullickson, media spokesman, "This festival gives everyone in St. Louis a unique opportunity to celebrate St. Louis' French heritage Soulard-style!"



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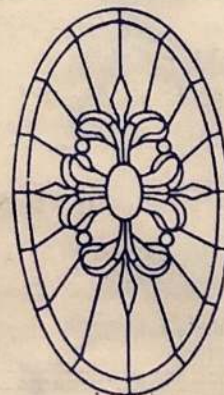
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# BRIGHTSIDE BLITZ — FUN! FUN! FUN?



Brightside Blitz was a tremendous success, according to Area Commander Mary Jo Warren. People from all over Souland pitched in to clean yards, alleys, sidewalks, basements, etc.

Don Kehr (9th Street Abbey), Theresa, and Karen are shown picking up debris on 8th Street. Special thanks go to Karen for helping; she, like many others, works in Souland and volunteered on her day off to work in our neighborhood blitz. When I asked her why, she pondered a moment, smiled and said, "Cause it is like no other place in St. Louis," as she turned and pointed down the street where another 20 or so were working ... "Like being at an extended family outing, everybody is part of the fun." Her brow was beaded with perspiration and I noticed Don raise his shirt to wipe away the sweat running down his face. *And she called this fun!*

**Thanks to ALL who had the FUN!**



## SRG WINS "UNUSUAL" DISTINCTION

Souland Restoration Group, representing the Souland neighborhood at large participated in the "Where We Live" parade, held June 7. The parade, co-sponsored by Missouri Historical Society, KMOV-TV, KMOX-Radio, and St. Louis Post-Dispatch, had several entries in each of various categories. SRG's float won for [guess what ... ?] **MOST UNUSUAL**. Congratulations to the "float artists" responsible!

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# Changes Made in Workers' Compensation Law

Submitted by  
Ronnie L. White  
State Representative, 63rd District

The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill (HS HCS HB 975) that would take the first step in controlling rapidly rising insurance premiums paid by employers to fund workers' compensation programs.

Under the measure, rate increases made by insurance companies for workers' compensation plans would be justifiable only by increases in the actual cost of providing insurance itself, rather than on considerations such as profits or overhead costs. Rate increases would require a hearing before the Director of Insurance, and hearings would be considered by Missouri administrative law to be *contested cases* by nature. Furthermore, rate increases would be tied to the consumer price index starting in August of 1993.

In addition to provisions slowing down rate increases outright, the measure would attempt to cut costs

by curbing the financial exploitation of workers' compensation insurance programs. The bill would crack down on fraudulent activities involving the programs by imposing harsher fines on companies and individuals abusing the system. For example, an employee discovered to have filed a false claim could be fined up to \$10,000, and an insurer deliberately underinsuring a client company's employees could have its license to sell insurance revoked.

The bill also would attempt to eliminate the practice seen in some hospitals and doctors' offices of charging patients suffering from work-related injuries higher fees than other patients. Related provisions would prohibit health care providers from attempting to collect payment from the injured employee, and would make the Division of Workers' Compensation obligated to resolve fee disputes between health care providers and employers.

The measure would attack high costs by eliminating the inefficient-

cies that come with poor communication [and] lack of innovation. Under the bill, the Division of Workers' Compensation would be required to develop a public information program to assist workers, employers and insurers, and a hotline to answer workers' questions. In addition, the "Workers' Compensation Advisory Committee" would be set up for the purpose of examining ways to improve the system.

Finally, the bill would attempt to streamline some of the procedures used to operate the Second Injury Fund, which is the backup funding program used by the state to help private companies pay for overly costly compensation claims. Under the measure, the allowance for attorney's fees to defend the Second Injury Fund would be subject to appropriation by the General Assembly, and cases involving the Second Injury Fund would have to be filed within two years of the actual injury or within one year of the filing of the original claim against the insurer. Also, it would open to the public all records related to the filing of claims.

The bill is presently in a Senate committee awaiting approval and final consideration on the Senate floor.

## A WORD FROM PHYLLIS YOUNG ALDERMAN, 7TH WARD

Many observers of city government are questioning why we are spending scarce city dollars to build a new arena at Kiel.

A study of city revenue sources will quickly demonstrate that a great percentage of city revenue comes from the city earnings tax of 1% of the salary of workers in the city. (Of the \$302 million budget for the upcoming fiscal year, \$92 million is derived from the earnings tax.) However, further study will also show that hundreds of jobs are no longer available in the city because our past job base was primarily manufacturing. That manufacturing base has drastically declined as factories have moved to rural areas or even other countries to take advantage of cheaper labor pools. To maintain the current employment level and to increase city revenues, it is essential that we look to other employment opportunities. For St. Louis, the convention/entertainment industry is that growth industry. It thus becomes critical to capture all the events that we can accommodate rather than lose them to other cities.

Kiel Auditorium cost the city \$900,000 annually to operate, and it was only open one out of every four nights—not nearly enough to offset the operating expenses. In addition, it was in serious need of renovation. Cost estimates for the needed repairs were approximately \$10 million. We could have spent that amount for the repairs, but the building would still have been sig-

nificantly inefficient when judged by modern standards for sporting and other entertainment events.

Current plans for Kiel will cost us the original \$10 million pledged to the project. The additional \$100 million for the new arena will be paid by the Kiel Center Partners, a coalition of Civic Progress companies. In addition, we will issue approximately \$22 million in revenue bonds for constructing a new 1200 car garage, improving the existing lots at City Hall, and building a new lot on the site of the current city jail. Revenues from these parking facilities will be used to cover the debt on the bonds.

We will benefit from the project by creating jobs, strengthening our place in the entertainment industry, gaining a state of the art facility and a renovated Kiel Opera House, and stabilizing the western edge of downtown. City revenue will benefit from the payroll taxes, the amusement taxes, the parking taxes, restaurant and hotel taxes visitors will pay, and sales taxes paid by visitors who shop for souvenirs and by the many new employees in the entertainment/convention industry who spend their salaries to buy essentials for their families.

Projects such as this one are very difficult to finance in these difficult economic times, and they are very costly. However, if we are to protect our future by insuring a steady revenue stream, we must analyze the growth industries and determine what fits the community needs. Kiel Center is essential to our future.

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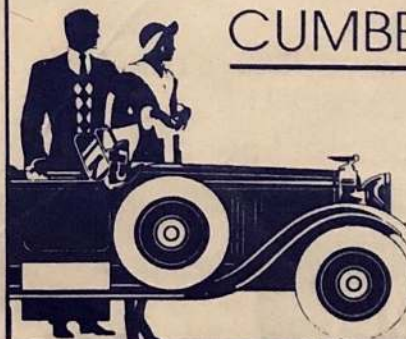
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# WHAT?...THEY HAVE A **CHILD** IN SOULARD?

by Darlene & Skip Gaternann

One of our fondest memories of living in Souland was of the first time we placed our house on tour in 1976. Our home was one of those infamous *before* houses placed on tour supposedly to let tour guests have an idea of what a "liveable" home was like and to prove such homes actually existed. The suburban mentality had come to the conclusion that we all lived in shells. Looking back, the real purpose of having our home on tour was to make the others on tour look good!

Many comments were made by tour guests as they passed through our home, but the best ones took place in our son's bedroom when they saw his baby bed. Most often heard was, "My God, they're raising a child in Souland!" One woman asked, "What will you do when the boy is old enough for school?" Our host in the room answered flatly, "Send him to school." Yes, Virginia, there is a school in Souland!

When we moved to Souland in 1975, our son Tom was only a year old. Many people thought we were crazy for moving here, especially with a child.

Tom quickly adapted to life in Souland. He learned skills no tod-

der could gain elsewhere. He learned to paint, refinish woodwork, carpentry skills, and the fine art of rewiring a home, to name just a few. He even had a work apron on which "Boss Carpenter" was printed proudly. His young body quickly adjusted to lower thermostat settings. Fewer germs exist in cold temperatures and as a result he grew to be a healthy young boy.

His vocabulary was beyond that of the average suburban rug rat. The Souland environment provided him with meaningful words of which no Chesterfield kid would ever conceive: number 12 wiring with ground, gangway, cornice, alley, rowhouse, wainscot, etc.

Tom played with *normal* children's toys, too, but with unusual twists. His Tonka trucks hauled broken plaster; his Radio Flyer totes bricks. Tom also had a unique year-round play facility not available to children in Bridgeton—a dirt floor basement. Canals, roads and excavations were created there while the winds blew and the snow fell outside. When warm weather returned, Tom headed for the backyard plaster pile with shovel and trucks in hand.

Having committed Tom to such an educational and stimulating en-

vironment, we compounded the situation—we had Christine in 1977. To the horror—we're sure—of many, we actually *had* a child while living in Souland. Surely with a second child we would come to our senses and move from this ghastly area. By 1977 our brains were too coated with plaster dust to think rationally. We actually dug in deeper and remortgaged the house. Christine displayed immediately the special skills needed for survival in Souland—she became a great stair climber. She knew when going "bye bye" to head for the front of the

Christine will enter the 9th grade this fall at St. John the Baptist College Preparatory High School in the city. Her brother will graduate from Central Visual and Performing Arts High School this spring where he is an honors photography student. This fall he will begin attending the Center Creative Studies—College of Art and Design in Detroit.

What this boils down to is living in Souland or the inner city is no handicap for children. It is perhaps more challenging for them and their parents. Souland affords wonderful opportunities for children and fam-



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house for the car, as a garage in the back doesn't exist in Souland. Athletic training for Christine began early as she had to climb to her room on the third floor.

In 1978, Tom went off to preschool at Trinity Lutheran School. He continued there through 8th grade. His little sister went off to Lafayette Park United Methodist Preschool when she was four and then joined her brother at Trinity. Trinity is one of Souland's best kept secrets. You see, if the outside world actually found out that there is a place in Souland for children to learn their three Rs, our reputation as a neighborhood would be shot. It is obvious that many people feel Souland is a place to live for a few years and then move out when it's time for the children to attend school. We guess living in Souland for a couple of years looks good on a resume. One can proudly state, "Oh yes, I braved the inner city." It shows courage and strength to a prospective employer.

Tom and Christine both did well during elementary school. They had well-trained and thoughtful teachers. They became avid swimmers on the YMCA swim team. Tom played basketball on Trinity's school team. He even went into scouting. All of these wonderful opportunities—right here in the inner city, folks!

ilies. It's like anywhere one might live—you make the most of opportunities offered.

One of the best things about raising Tom and Christine in Souland is that they come in contact with a great variety of people. The irrational fears their suburban counterparts have don't exist in them. They have grown up without suburban attitudes or prejudices. We believe this will truly benefit them in the future.

It is truly a shame more parents don't view Souland and its opportunities in a favorable light. Our children, Souland and our city could only benefit from it.



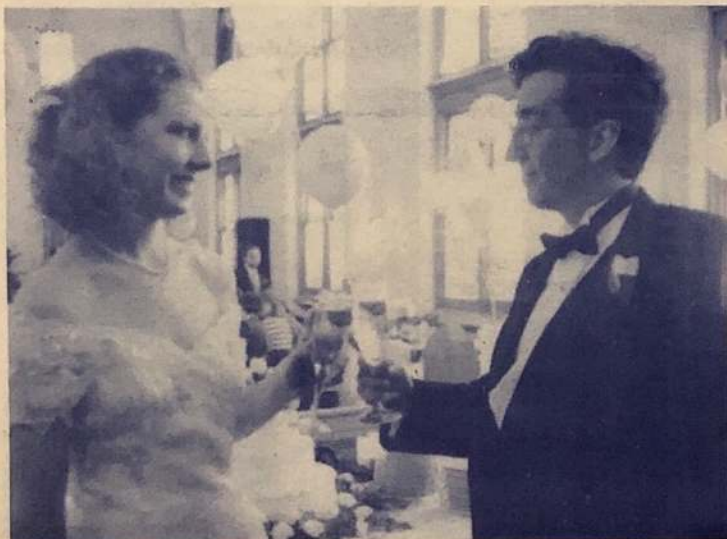
# Wedding Bells are Ringing in Soulard



Recently, two prominent couples in Soulard were married. Dave and Lisa (above right) were the first to take the plunge. It can truly be said she had a beautiful wedding with a small performing orchestra during the ceremony. The reception was held at the 9th Street Abbey (below), with owner/host Don Kehr providing a champagne toast for the 200+ guests who attended. The festive occasion was catered by Patti Long, however, one guest was heard to complain to overeat whenever she caters an event. This was more like

a happening. After the wedding, a small army of guests descended on the Venice Cafe for some Nitro Cola (97% caffeine) and after-marital bliss.

The second couple are Jay and Carla (above left) who were married in our own Trinity Lutheran Church. Jay and Carla are a talented couple who love the neighborhood and rehabbing. Our heartfelt congratulations to the two couples... and if I may propose a toast to them, "To live long and prosper!"



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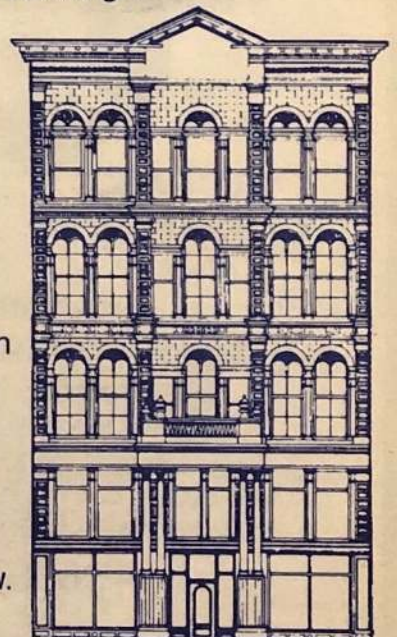
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Department PA  
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Washington, D.C. 20036



# Soulard's Shalom Zones – Gardens of Peace

Recently, as I stood admiring one of these newly created gardens, my mind drifted to peaceful and contented thoughts. I had been observing the smiles and pleasant comments of passersby. I had photographed families playing in the free space about the garden.

I was rudely jolted to sanity as a nearby shop owner and policeman ran toward me excitedly shouting, "Did you see it? Hey, mister, which way did he go?"

Shalom in Hebrew is *Holy, set off from the secular world, a perfect essence of being which is an unequalled love.* My hope is that these Shalom Zones will remind all of us as residents and neighbors that even though someone else may have created these peaceful places, we are the ones left to protect and guard the zones of peace.



Yes, it was the worst possible invasion of a lazy, serene, sunny afternoon ... 3:30 p.m. in daylight, two armed robberies in less than five minutes ... Invasion of peace ... No good descriptions, but an out-of-state license on the get-away vehicle.

The Creator is revealed through nature in Shalom gardens. Places of peace that refresh, just as a cold drink of water restores and refreshes ... 35 or more residents recently joined together to create these gardens of peace throughout the Soulard neighborhood ... and now ...

It is *YOUR TURN* to help protect these areas by joining the Mobile Patrol. Call Dave Lewis ... Contribute to the Block Captain or Neighborhood Watch ... The Foot Patrol ... Attend neighborhood meetings to learn what to do to prevent crime in your Shalom Zone.

Shalom

At right center is Mary Sheridan, Chairman of the SRG Beautification Committee.



*"Its Barbeque Specialties  
Are Real Winners."*

—Joe Pollack /9-16-91

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GARDEN PATIO

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# Watch Your Step in Soulard

Why do they do it? They say they love them like we love our children. Would we let them—our children—do it? Of course not. What am I talking about ... DOGS and their deposits they leave on our sidewalks and that nice little patch of grass between the sidewalk and the street. You know the place where you have to step in order to get into your car.

I will be honest, I am not a dog lover, but I do tolerate them if they are properly taken care of by their owners. That means not coming home to your nice little Soulard flat opening the door just enough to let little Muffy out so she can deposit an enormous load on the sidewalk. Hooray for Muffy! Hooray for you! (By the way, I think it's a little strange the way pet owners stand very still while watching their dogs dump.) What should come next you wonder? Muffy wags her tail and bounces inside. WRONG ... Owner of said pooch should walk out with his pooper scooper and pick up said load and put it in one of those nice plastic bags they give you at the grocery store and take it out back to the dumpster in the alley. Does this happen?

Why can't these so-called dog lovers clean up after their pets? I'm sure if they came from work and one of those parcels were lying in the middle of their oriental carpet, they wouldn't just let it lay there. They would shriek in horror and probably banish the offender to the dirt floor cellar and bring out buckets of Pine Sol and clean their rug. But when it happens on my sidewalk or front yard ... NO PROBLEM. Check it out; make sure little bowzer has properly relieved himself then move on. Maybe I should bring my three year old grandson over to your front yard



"Caught in the act."  
Note the dog is also in disguise.

and show you what he can do.

I lived in Chesterfield for three years. Dogs did not run loose. That would be socially unacceptable. They are electronically contained in their yards. That was great. You could be walking down the street and a devil dog from hell would run to the end of his yard showing all of his teeth ready to eat you alive when he would receive an electric jolt. This would really put him in his place. But the best part was it kept his doggie goodies in his own back yard; therefore, the owner was forced to clean up said deposits and our sidewalks and yards were spared. Now, can the good people of Soulard say that the county has anything over on us? No way. Get out there with those pooper scoopers, pick up that \_\_\_\_\_ or I'll bring over my grandson to your front yard.

[Serious note: It's the law. City Ordinance requires owners to pick up after their dogs.]

*The Good Life...*  
**GETS BETTER!**



"Beyond our expectation," quips the chef as the food supply runs low. "Beyond our expectation," smiles Bob Kraberg as he rakes in the money—Editor's Note: Just prior to leaving for Europe with Kathy.



Soulard's fondness for parties and beer bashes gives it all the intellectual caché of a Moose Lodge, but the lively social calendar is a

most active recruiting tool. This sort of dispels the train of thought about elitism in Soulard.

Our recent Foot Patrol Fundraiser mixed those who skim the IQ Cream at the upper mark with the rest of the world ... and man, did we mix. Fun and good for the neighborhood could not have been conceived to be so all out successful ... What did it? Everyone, yes virtually everyone participated in the event ... all neighborhood associations, churches, restaurants and bars ... the SBA all teamed to strut our stuff and raise money for the Foot Patrol in Soulard.

Sit down when you read it! \$8,000 was raised to provide extra off-duty police protection during the rest of 1992. Off-duty officers are now vying for these jobs. Rumor has it that two of our faithful restaurants are donating motorized vehicles for the police to use. Fantastic job, Soulard. Keep it up. Cooperation and participation are key to the success of our treasure in Soulard.



## Old Fashioned Picnic In The Park



August 22 will be the Soulard Restoration Group's Picnic in the Park. Water toss, 3-legged things, volleyball, water balloons, egg toss ... stay tuned ... Somewhere in Soulard: SRG provides meat and coolers. Bring your own fare with a little to spare. Pot Luck Picnic!



# "WATER COLORIST" — LILLIAN

I grew up in the burbs and never realized there were other lifestyles available until I did some graduate work at the University of Toulouse in Southern France (Art History—very practical!). In Europe, the suburbs aren't ubiquitous and city living is normal. It opened my eyes to a delightful alternative. I married into the neighborhood a year ago (we just had our first anniversary and went on a balloon ride over St. Louis to celebrate) and find that Soulard has many of the best qual-

ities of city living.

We're rehabbing ... Isn't everybody? I love the results of rehabbing, but I'm not so crazy about the process. Currently, the cast iron bathtub resides in the study where I trip over it in the mornings before my eyes are quite open, and the new vanity, flooring, and medicine cabinet completely block the downstairs hall. Bob, on the other hand, *LOVES* the process. He happily hammers away, saws and re-wires, swears and shouts, and in the end always

looks extremely pleased with himself and the results.

I went to college at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where I got a degree in Fine Art. It was a rude awakening when I discovered that I had to earn a living. So, from there I got a job with an engineering firm to put a roof over my head and decided to become a professional student. Actually, it wasn't a conscious

decision. It just happened. I spent a year studying Art History in Southern France. After that I felt like doing something more lucrative so I started another undergraduate degree, this time in Computer Science. Half way through that, I had a revelation. Why get another undergraduate degree when in the same time I could get a Masters?? An MBA?? I think my second semester of calculus had something to do with that particular revelation. By now I was working for the university in the microcomputer support group, and I enrolled in the night program. Many years later I graduated, looked around for something better to do with my time, and ended up in St. Louis working for IBM.

Now I work in corporate sales, peddling computers for a living, while at heart I'm still a frustrated artist. Within the last year I picked up my paint brush again and started painting scenes around St. Louis. It's a delightful way to get to know the city, meet people and improve my technique.

*[Editor's Note: Lillian is to have a show at Bon Appetit in the fall ... and is currently doing houses of interest in the area.]*



## MESSAGE FROM CAPTAIN PAGE

Third District,  
St. Louis Police Department

We are quickly approaching the summer months when many people start thinking about vacations. Something everyone should include in their vacation plans is Crime Prevention. Before going on vacation complete an out of town notification with the Police Department and follow the instructions provided. Either stop mail and paper deliveries or make arrangements to have them picked up by a relative or neighbor. If you will be gone for an extended period make arrangements to have your grass cut. Consider purchasing timers for lights and radios. The best thing you can have, though, is neighbors who will watch your home while you are gone. Active neighborhood watch groups help keep crime down.

During summer we spend more time out of doors. Remember to lock the front door when you are going to be in the backyard and don't leave items like lawnmowers and bicycles unattended or fail to secure them. We get many reports of these items being stolen.




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# NORTON'S CAFE

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 Raspberry Chicken • Crab Cakes  
 16 oz. Porterhouse • Shrimp Creole

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# WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN Soulard?



**Gretchen** from Kansas attended a downtown convention with her Catholic Church . . . Heard about Soulard, came to visit, and fell in love with us . . . (Soulard).



**Diedre Clifton** of G.F. Filter Supply, sells to world headquarters in Soulard, such as Anheuser-Busch Companies, Monsanto, A.E. Schmitt, Ralston Purina . . .



**Franzia & Robert**, formerly of Tripoli, Libya . . . Now Chicago . . . Visiting a local Bed & Breakfast.

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## A Taste of Soulard

by Marilyn Wiethop

What do you do when you go on vacation? . . . Sleep and eat out a lot. These are both good things, especially if you like to eat. I just returned from Key West with about six extra pounds and I would like to share with you how I got them!

### Capt. Bill's Red Snapper

4 red snapper filets  
2 tomatoes, peeled and thinly sliced (If you can't get good tomatoes you can use canned whole peeled)  
Italian bread crumbs  
1/2 cup white wine  
1/2 stick butter  
1 t. butter  
Parmesan cheese  
Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 500°. Arrange filets in baking dish, sprinkle with bread crumbs, salt and pepper. Top with tomato slices, sprinkle with bread crumbs. In saucepan combine wine, butter and lemon juice,

cook over low heat until butter is melted, then increase heat and boil for 2 minutes. Pour mixture over fish and tomatoes, then top with parmesan cheese. Bake for about 10-12 minutes.

### Rigatoni & Broccoli

1/2 # rigatoni or ziti  
2 cups broccoli florets  
2 cups cubed tomatoes  
8 oz. can tuna packed in water, drained  
1 T. red wine vinegar  
1/2 cup olive oil  
1/4 t. hot red pepper flakes  
1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley  
1/2 cup thin sliced red onion

Cook rigatoni, drain and place in large mixing bowl. Cook broccoli until just tender. Mix all ingredients and serve at room temperature. This recipe is great because it can be made at the last minute or prepared hours ahead of time. If you are using it as a side dish you can leave out the tuna.

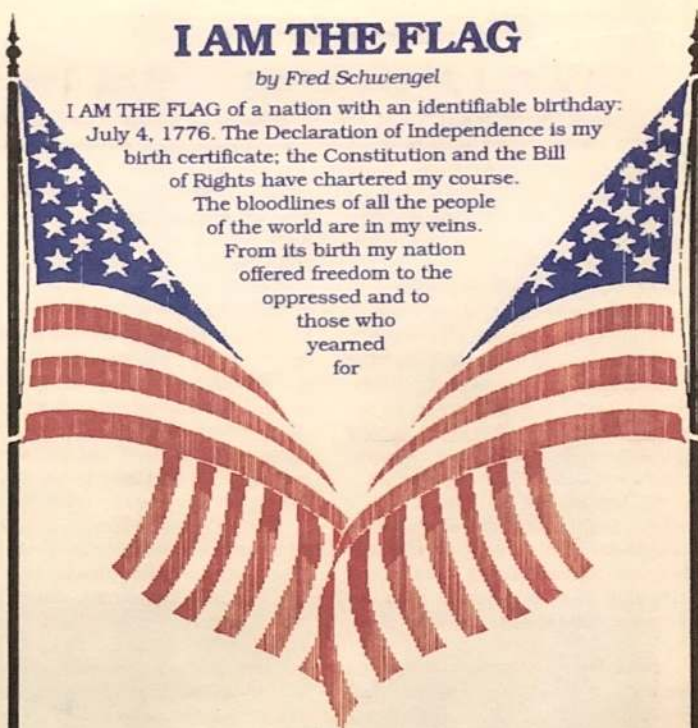
## I AM THE FLAG

by Fred Schwengel

I AM THE FLAG of a nation with an identifiable birthday: July 4, 1776. The Declaration of Independence is my birth certificate; the Constitution and the Bill of Rights have chartered my course.

The bloodlines of all the people of the world are in my veins.

From its birth my nation offered freedom to the oppressed and to those who yearned for



### FREEDOM.

The five freedoms that we especially cherish are freedom from fear and want, freedom of the press and speech, freedom of religion, and freedom of the movement of men and goods.

I am many things to many people. I represent the nation called the United States of America.

Over 220 million living souls—and the ghosts of millions more who have died for me are a part of me.

In 1782, the Continental Congress passed a resolution establishing red, white and blue as a seal of the United States. In this resolution it is said, "Red is for heartiness and courage, white is for purity and innocence, and blue for vigilance, perseverance and justice. George Washington is quoted as saying, "We take the stars from heaven, the red from our mother country, separating it by white stripes, which shall go down in posterity representing liberty."

On April 4, 1818, Congress passed a law directing that our flag would always have 13 stripes alternating red and white and one white star in a blue field for each state. This law is still in effect.

In my history are Nathan Hale and Paul Revere. My heritage is at Lexington where the shot heard around the world was fired. In my heritage are Washington, Jefferson, Patrick Henry, John Paul Jones, Green Mountain Boys, Davy Crockett, Lee, Grant, and Abe Lincoln. Once when my ideals were seriously challenged, a civil war resulted. The Gettysburg speech and Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address reset my goal.

I was there when they dug the Panama Canal, cultivated the wheat lands of Kansas, plowed the cornfields of Iowa, and quarried the granite from the hills of Vermont.

I was there when they built the Eads Bridge, when they cultivated the Crystal Springs Farm (now Soulard), dug the foundation for Soulard Market Park. I was there when they paved the streets with red granite cobblestones, quarried in the hills of Missouri.

I represent the Nation, and these are but some of what I have been and am. I was conceived in freedom and, God willing, in freedom I will spend the rest of my days.

[printed with permission from The New Age Magazine Volume XCVI, Number 6]

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SOULARD  
AREA

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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## BLOCK CAPTAINS EMPHASIZE SAFESTREETS

Another newsletter has cropped up in Souard. Titled "The Souard Safestreet Report," the single sheet publication is the vehicle of Souard block captains. Aimed at alerting residents to the need to be security conscious, the newsletter is part of the overall neighborhood goal of increasing participation in fighting crime.

"The block captains' efforts are to try to get neighbors to talk to each other more," explains Clark Rowley. Rowley and Mary Lou Bourque organized the block captains, using guidelines provided by Operation Safestreet of the City of St. Louis.

"If people are talking to each other, and if they know who their neighbors are, then they feel less isolated and are more likely to respond if they witness a crime or suspect something is amiss," Rowley notes.

Operation Safestreet wants block captain organizations to hold block meetings and to sell people a security package provided by the City of St. Louis. The security package includes bars for doors and windows, locks, peepholes for doors, and other hardware. "Our emphasis has been away from the hardware and the meetings at people's homes," according to Rowley. "Instead, we are encouraging the block captains to get to know the people on their block and to encourage residents to report problems to them. The block captain in turn forwards the information to us or to members of the Crime Committee of the Souard Restoration Group."

If block captains note a trend, then action may be necessary. "We feel that crime does not suddenly spring up full-blown. Instead, criminal elements become more daring over time, until they reach a point where they control the streets, and then the community has a major problem," Bourque remarks. "Our objective is to detect early any deterioration of respect for public and private property, and to try to take action as soon as possible, even before the police are interested in the problem."

A prime example of persistent information exchange as a vehicle for eliminating a threat to neighborhood security occurred recently. As a result of disinterest on the part of police, an aggressive panhandler grew bolder in his approach to Souard residents and visitors. He finally threatened one woman on her doorstep and stood between another woman and her front door at 10:00 in the evening.

Even then, the police were not interested. It took concerted action by block captains and Operation Safestreet personnel at City Hall to solve the problem.

"Any deterioration of the standard of residential living in Souard is the concern of the block captains, or of any resident, for that matter," Bourque states. "The block captains have as one of their objectives the collection of information regarding such deterioration."

Thus, as the name implies, the block captain program is designed to monitor the health and welfare of the blocks by a person living in the block. The newsletter, which is produced every month and a half to three months, is designed to help the block captain keep in touch with his or her neighbors.

The program is meant as a supplement to the Souard Mobile Watch and to other programs of the SRG Crime Committee, chaired by Bob Kralberg.

"We do not see ourselves as crime busters. Rather, the block captains act in more of a social capacity, relaying information up and down the line," Rowley points out.

The block captains help promote other activities, including yard sales and the recycling program developed by Terry and Linda Hoffman, advertising their recycling pick-ups in each newsletter. "Any group activity which results in people working together contributes to the feeling of neighborhood, and that works against the spread of crime," observes Bourque.

At present, the newsletter has a printing of 900 copies. The number needs to be boosted. Although all Souard blocks are not covered, **more block captains are needed.** The last issue was printed at the expense of the SRG Crime Committee. Previously, printing had been donated. If any *Renaissance* readers are interested in working with the block captain organization, please contact Clark Rowley at 773-3543 or Mary Lou Bourque at 776-5733. At present, Bourque is acting in an advisory capacity to the block captain organization.


421-2131

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## SOULARD SOFTBALL!

The following schedule represents Souard Neighborhood's participation. The team, managed by Gary Siddens (772-3818) will play in Tower Grove Park—Historic Neighborhood Co-Ed Division.

The first game is with Lafayette Square on June 25 (6:00). Then on July 2 (6:00), Souard plays Shaw II. On July 9 (7:00) the Compton Heights game occurs. July 16 (7:00) Souard again plays Lafayette Square.

The big Souard vs. Lafayette Square game will be held in late July on a Saturday in Lafayette Square park. The picnic follows the exciting event. More news to come!



## SOULARD LIONS CLUB AT WORK SELLING POPCORN

In the last issue of *The Renaissance*, we reported the \$500 contribution that the Souard Lions Club had made to the Crime Patrol. A significant portion of funds used for such worthwhile projects comes from the organization's selling popcorn at local Schnucks stores.

In order for Souard residents to get out, have a great tasting popcorn treat (their popcorn is great by the way) and support their cause, the following schedule is provided.

On **June 26 and 27** the Souard Lions will be at the Schnucks located at **5055 Arsenal**. Then on **July 10 and 11** the club will be selling at the Reavis Barracks store, **3661 Reavis Barracks Rd.** The Schnucks at **7057 Chippewa** will be their headquarters on **August 21 and 22**.

Starting times on Fridays is 3:00 p.m., ending at 8:00 p.m. On Saturdays, popcorn vendors begin at 10:00 a.m. and end again at 8:00 p.m.

**Come out and support them!**



## "GREAT STEAKS"

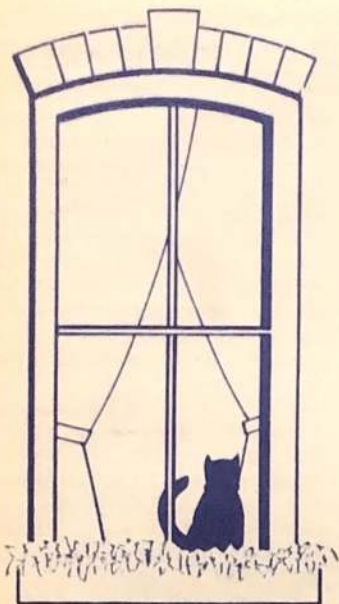
... recommended  
by Lynn Scudieri

Tuesday-Friday  
Lunch —  
11:00 to 2:00

Dinner —  
4:00 to Midnight

In Historic Souard  
2117 South 12th  
Half Block South of Russell

772-5977



# COME HOME TO SOULARD

by Tom French, Bon Appetit

The words are etched on my coffee cup, as I sit pondering—open in hand—feeling the cool spring breeze flowing in the door.

Reaching deep into the recesses of my mind for something profound to say.

The thoughts finally begin to surface—yes there it is ...

WHY THE HELL DO I VOLUNTEER TO WRITE THIS ARTICLE? DON'T I HAVE ENOUGH TO DO? AFTER ALL THERE'S THE BIG PICTURE, THE BIG ENCHILADA—THE WHOLE BALL OF WAX THAT MUST BE HANDLED TODAY!

As I stared at the sketch on the cup, I focused on the little cat in the window—

Sitting - watching - observing all that passes by.

Seeing things from a different perspective - watching the ebb and flow of the neighborhood.

It kind of got me thinking about the ebb and flow aspect of Souard. The hum of the block as the early risers do their morning thing—joggers, walkers, dog exercisers—the push to get it going—then the tide rushes out and a calm settles in—the magic of Souard unfolds.

Being in business in the neighborhood is great. You meet the diversity of population ... The elderly, the artist, the writer, the musician, the lawyer, teacher, architect, on & on — I am thoroughly convinced that you could cloister yourself here and not want for much.

Listening in on lunch conversation I hear people talk about the charm, history, and character of our neighborhood—spoken with a hint of wishfulness that they too could bring this feeling home.

As the day carries on, the tide begins to flow again and the pace comes alive. The diversity begins to show itself once again.

Like so many generations before us we come home to our dreams, our hopes, our plans for the future — All the things that make for a full and satisfying life. And when combined with others' hopes and dreams—make for a real community.

The one thing most people truly yearn for — A sense of belonging — A sense of purpose.

So that's why the hell I volunteered to write this article ...

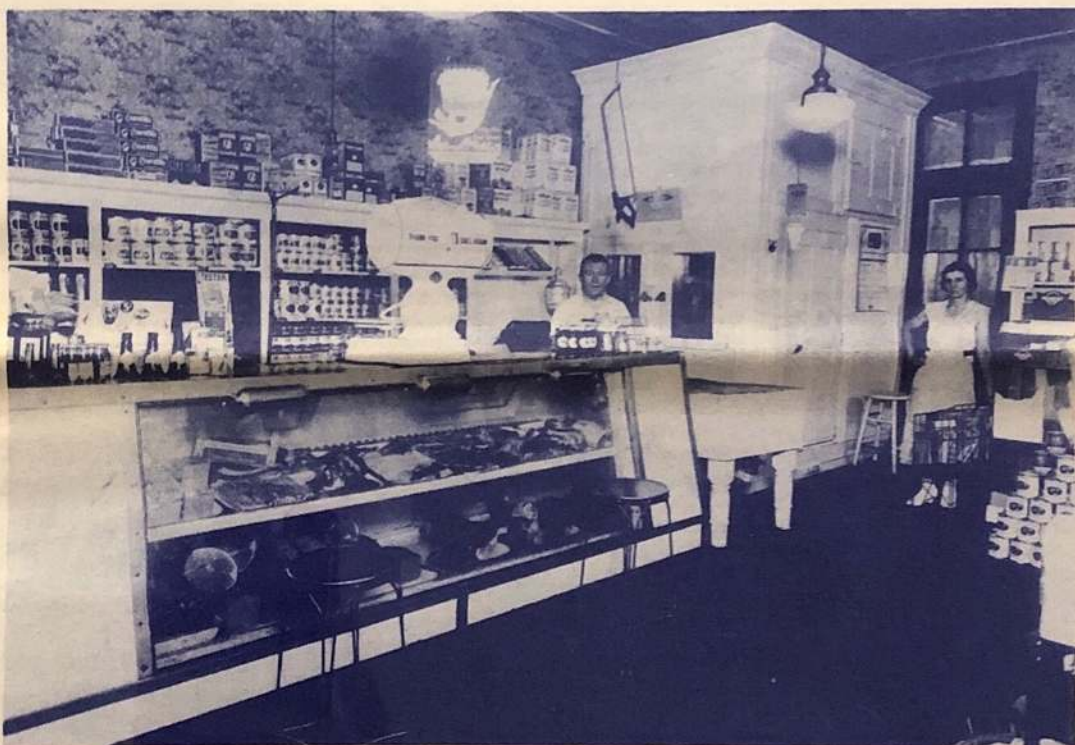
Probably to remind myself of what the cat in the window already knows ...

Life ebbs & flows — how you see it depends on which window you are looking through and where you choose to be when the sun streams through that window.

When we are looking out—

There is always someone looking in. I think they like what they see.

So I think I'll go home — Burn some candles and eat enchiladas.



The 1941 photo is of the building currently housing BON APPETIT.

The photo was donated by the family of the 1941 owners when THEY came home to Souard.

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1 Block West of Broadway (7th) in Souard  
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# IS THE HOUSING MARKET HEADING US OUT OF RECESSION?

by Alan Richardson

They say that the housing market is one of the leading economic indicators. That if the housing market begins to recover, we're on our way out of recession. If that's true, then the news is good for you, me and the USA. For the housing market throughout the metro area has shown sustained signs of recovery in the first five months of this year. A recovery that is significantly different from last year in that it hasn't faltered ... at least yet!

Having said that, let me throw in a little note of caution. It's recovery we're talking about at the moment, not revival! House sales are certainly up from last year, and especially re-sale homes, but prices are not. At best they have begun to firm up. At worst, I think they have dropped as far as they are likely to.

Soulard has been a good reflection of the metro area. In fact—if anything—the neighborhood has been ahead of the metro area trends. Last year, for example, when all the "experts" forecast gloom and doom, Soulard had its best housing market for over five years. Some 32 houses sold against only six in the year before (1990).

Would you believe that this year Soulard is doing even better? By the

end of May, at least 22 houses were sold or under contract. I've said it before, but I have to say it again, "Soulard is selling! It's a great neighborhood to live in, and the word's getting out!"

What is perhaps even more interesting when compared to last year is the range of properties sold. Last year, the first five months were devoted almost exclusively to first time buyer type sales. (That is also a typical sign of the beginning of a housing market recovery—recovery almost always begins at the bottom end.) This year at least a third of the sales have been around the \$100,000 or more mark, with one close to \$200,000.

## SALES POINTERS

I am frequently asked what causes a house to sell in Soulard, especially as we have had three or four properties that have sold within a week of listing. The answer is two-fold. A house that is either very well done, or very well priced. If it's a combination of both, it will usually sell quite quickly.

By *very well done*, I would point especially to kitchens and bathrooms. These two rooms—along with a family room and a master suite bedroom—are *THE* emphasis

for today's style of living. So, if you are going to invest any money in your house, that's the direction to look in. That ... and a garage! Be careful, however, not to spend beyond what your house can bring you back in resale. There is a ceiling for your house, and no matter what you spend, it will not exceed that. Be careful to get some sort of appraisal or professional advice before you get too deeply into it.

## FORECAST FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR

Continuing more positive than last year. I think we will see more houses sold than even in 1991. But most significantly, we will see a greater dollar volume of property sold. That will be because we will see more relocaters buying into the neighborhood rather than just first-time buyers, with more sales around or above the \$100,000 mark.

Don't expect a radical breakthrough, however. If it is a recovery we're headed into, then it's going to be steady and gradual.

One other thing to bear in mind. The city is still a somewhat volatile market. The inner cities have only been headed out of depression for around 20 years—a relatively short

period of time in real estate. Crises in other cities, in other parts of the nation, can still cause the market here to hiccup. The L.A. riots were typical. While St. Louis generally is a pretty well-integrated city and Soulard especially is a well integrated neighborhood, the riots put the city housing market into a stall for almost a month. People respond to fear much more readily than they do good news!

When you have a neighborhood as well established on the road to recovery as Soulard however, it's never usually more than a temporary relapse. And, as in this case, we're back on the road ... House sales began picking up again by the end of May.

In conclusion, interest rates are unlikely to go much lower. You couldn't find a much better time to buy, with prices where they are now. And for the person who thinks he should continue to rent because of uncertainty about job future, let me ask you a question—"Do you think your landlord will be more lenient than your lender? Investing in real estate is investing in your nation in the most practical sense.

[Alan works with Mary King and Assoc. Realtors.]

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*In Soulard.....Selling Soulard*

## Thanks Soulard for making me "Rookie of the year" (1991)!

The St. Louis Board of Realtors - with some 7,000 members - voted your local Soulard realtor the most successful rookie in the metro area with \$2.4 million in sales - MOST OF THAT IN SOULARD!!

Thanks again for your confidence in Pat and I which enabled us to go out and get the results!

**UPDATE: RESULTS THIS YEAR ARE LOOKING EVEN BETTER THAN LAST YEAR!! WE HAVE SOLD OR PUT UNDER CONTRACT 17 HOUSES SO FAR THIS YEAR IN SOULARD!**  
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# MEET YOUR NEW NEIGHBOR— TONCA

My concern for the preservation and well-being of this gracious old neighborhood took me to the Ninth Street Abbey for the foot patrol fund raiser on April 26. I was impressed with the turn-out and felt I couldn't let others do all the work. That brought me to the next SRG meeting. It's been a long time since I've been in a room with so many positive people. I wanted to be a part of it.

Why did I move to Soulard? I can sum it up in one word. Commuting. I lived in Ballwin when my company was bought out and I was transferred downtown. Four days on I-44 convinced me I didn't belong there. Other commuters knew I didn't belong there. Well, there was always Bi-State.

This meant leaving home at 6:30 a.m. to get to work by 8:00 a.m. The return trip was worse. Prone to motion sickness, reading was not an option. That was about three hours of unproductive time spent in transit. Unless of course you consider sleep productive.

Well, I'm a city girl, I thought. Always was a square peg in suburbia. I'll move. I got no encouragement from friends and neighbors who knew little of life east of I-270.

"You'll need a gun," some said. "Your car insurance will go up," proclaimed others. So I moved.

I'd heard of Soulard as an historic area; once at risk, now undergoing a rebirth. I had been here once; the Trans-Atlantic Balloon Company Restaurant. Know where it is? It's now called Tucker's Place. It was the only area I considered moving into.

In my reflective moods I am reminded of the neighborhood in which I grew up in New Orleans. There were family-owned businesses and the owners lived above or behind their shops. The kids walked to school together, kindergarten through the eighth grade. We learned to roller skate on brick walks, played hopscotch, caught fireflies at dusk. Then, abandonment and decay. Now, revival and restoration. There's an art gallery in the old ice cream parlor and a restaurant in the shoe repair shop. There are families. There are children.

Beyond my affection for old buildings—and anything older than I am that's still standing—Soulard means convenience, comfort, charm; it is full of character and characters. And now it's home.

## Neighborhood Fabric

by Jay Gibbs



### 1022-24 Allen Ave.

At the southeast corner of Allen Avenue and Menard Street stands a typical, circa 1880s second empire style corner storefront building. Many street corners in the Soulard area sport such commercial structures, because in the days before automobiles, local merchants had to peddle their wares within short walking distance of their customers. With the advent of supermarkets and shopping malls, many of these corner storefronts became superfluous to commerce; how to best re-use such buildings is an ongoing challenge in historic neighborhoods such as Soulard.

Happily, this particular building has been renewed. Even though it was vacant for a few years, it was never allowed to deteriorate to the boarded-up-shell stage. In the before-rehab picture, note that despite

its shabby appearance, the exterior of 1022-24 Allen Ave. still retains almost all of its original architectural features.

In the after-rehab view, the cast iron and wood storefront has been cleaned and then painted in a pleasing three-color scheme. The upper stories' windows were likewise reclaimed, and the original copper guttering the beautifully repainted brick cornice. The one major exterior change is the historically accurate new slate installed on the mansard roof.

The building's owner has located the business offices of his asbestos-removal firm in the commercial first story, and spacious residential space fills the gut-rehabbed upper two floors. 1022-24 Allen Ave., once a corner store, then a shabby, obsolete relic, has found new relevance, and renewed beauty in these 1990s.



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## by Terry Hoffman

### What It Is

Our objective is to encourage neighborhood recycling by making it as easy and convenient as possible. And as you'll see, our program is designed to do almost all the work for you.

### How It Works

Pick-ups are always scheduled for Saturday mornings as shown below:

June 13  
July 11  
August 1  
September 5  
October 3  
November 7  
December 5

Recyclables should be placed on the curb in front of your home by 8:00 a.m. and they will be removed by no later than 10:00 a.m. Only the materials listed below are included in the pick-up service. And in order to expedite pick-ups and minimize space, we ask that all materials be separated and prepared in the following manner when placed curbside:

- ✓ Aluminum cans – flattened
- ✓ Cardboard – flattened ... Only material that resembles VVV is accepted. No fibreboard (e.g., cereal boxes, 12-pack cartons, etc.)
- ✓ Container glass – separated by color

- ✓ Newsprint – packed in paper or plastic bags
- ✓ Plastic – flattened (soda and milk containers only)

Phone books are collected only during the February, March, October, and November pick-ups, and at the present, steel cans are not accepted by the recycling centers.

### What It Costs

There is a nominal membership fee associated with this service, and we request this fee in order to minimize the "volunteer burnout" factor.

As our membership fee, we ask that all program participants assist in one of the monthly pick-ups. A pick-up truck is not needed and your involvement will be minimal, i.e. 1 1/2 - 2 hours once every six months. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and we believe you'll increase your environmental consciousness once you see the level of activity at the recycling center.

### *Its Initial Successes*

This program has been operating for four months and the neighborhood response has been very successful. Approximately 25 families are participating and we have diverted the following materials and quantities from the local landfills:

- ✓ Aluminum cans ... 60 lbs.
- ✓ Newsprint ... 2000 lbs.
- ✓ Corrugated cardboard ... 600 lbs.
- ✓ Plastic ... 100s of bottles
- ✓ Container glass ... 500 lbs.
- ✓ Phone books ... 50

Not much money has been earned by the Valet Recycling Program since material payouts are not as profitable as they once were. However, all money earned from this program will be directed towards neighborhood beautification. Location and timing of projects will be determined later.

## How To Join

Joining the program is as simple as calling Linda or myself at 664-2803. When you call, we'll make



*Valet pick-up by attractive neighbors.*

sure your name is added to our pick-up list, answer any questions you may have regarding the program, and schedule your volunteer time.

Thanks! Thanks! Thanks!

This program would not have been successful had it not been for the other Souldard residents who have so graciously volunteered their time at (what seems to be) the crack of dawn on Saturdays. Thanks to **Michelle and Tom Easches, Clark Rowley, Paul Vendrick, Larry Timm, Sharon Staffel, Linda Hoffman, and Marcia Wilson.**

Also, thanks to those who are already participating in the program. It's a pleasure to pick up your trash (especially since you learn so much about people from their gar-

bage).

So ... please don't sit there and think that you don't throw enough away to justify your involvement in the program. What may be only a small amount of recyclable material on an individual basis is a significant amount of material when combined with that of 30 or 40 of your neighbors.

And for those of you who are already recycling ... good for you! But why not let the Soulard Valet Recycling Program make your job a little easier. For those of you who are already involved in our program, tell a neighbor and a friend about us. For everybody else ... call us and join!

**Call 664-2803 to join the  
Soulard Valet Recycling Program!**

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by Judy Ivery

Regular readers of this paper are probably familiar with the work of local writer and photographer Jay Gibbs; he has written more than 50 articles for *The Souland Restorationist/Renaissance* in the last nine years. Nearly all of the photography accompanying Jay's articles have been his own.

Recently Jay was published twice in the historic preservation magazine *Old House Journal*, giving Souland some national exposure. But Jay's latest and most ambitious project was ironically neither a writing assignment, nor was it set in Souland. Jay was the photographer for a 240 page book entitled *Terrace Tales: A Contemporary History of Washington Terrace, Street of Mansions*.

## Success for Souland Renaissance Writer

Washington Terrace is one of the premiere Private Places, or privately owned streets in the Central West End. The street was plotted in 1892, and for 100 years has been self-governed according to a stringent set of bylaws prohibiting, for instance, commercial enterprises, rental properties, and other "nuisances." Washington Terrace runs west for two blocks from Union Avenue; it has gates at both ends, a gatehouse with a unique Romanesque-style clocktower at the Union Ave. entrance, and it contains 41 mansions of 4000-9000 square feet.

Some of the early residents included both Aaron Fuller and Julius Baer, co-founders of the Stix, Baer,

and Fuller department store chain, and Sam Breadon, former owner of the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team. These and many other businessmen and tycoons built and resided in houses of astonishing grandeur and architectural diversity.

*Terrace Tales*, authored by Jeff Tallent, a Central West End resident, is written in a fast-paced, anecdotal style, describing Washington Terrace's lives and times, deaths and ghosts, misers and treasures, artists and art. Ron Smith, the Head Plan-Examiner in the Building Permit section of City Hall, provided consulting on the architectural descriptions of the grand homes.



### TERRACE TALES:

A Contemporary History of Washington Terrace.



STREET OF MANSIONS

By Jeff Tallent  
Photography by Jay Gibbs

statues, stone gargoyles, faces, orate plasterwork, stained glass windows, carved woodwork, mosaic tile, you name it, at least one of the houses probably has it. Taking the pictures was really fun, discovering all the gorgeous details. The variety was amazing.

*Terrace Tales* is published by the Finbar Company, which is focusing on books about local history. To purchase a copy of *Terrace Tales* call the Finbar Company at 367-3304 or look for the book in most local bookstores. Also available is a full color poster commemorating Washington Terrace's 100th anniversary celebration. Its color photos, also by Jay Gibbs, feature all 41 mansions on the street, arranged around a painting of the Terrace's unique gatehouse.

Jay got little respite after *Terrace Tales* was published. With Finbar's backing he is now both writer and photographer of a book underway about the Souland neighborhood. Tentatively titled *Souland Stories*, this book is slated to be similar in approach and scope to *Terrace Tales*: an easy-reading, anecdotal, humorous but informative look at 200 years of Souland history and at the people who populated the area then and today. When will this next book hit the streets? "We're aiming for late 1992," Jay says, smiling. "We'll see."

Jay Gibbs took the photographs for *Terrace Tales*, and found that the project evolved as the book was written.

"What started out as basically taking pictures of the facades of these houses became a much bigger job. In all I took almost 450 photographs on Washington Terrace, and about 180 of them made it into the book."

In addition to the obligatory facade photos, Jay found a wealth of material from which to choose.

"As I got into the project, my approach became to zoom in, to capture the details of these houses close up, as opposed to panoramic room shots. These houses are full of



**The Blues Soul of Souland**

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|          |         | Tommy Bankhead &<br>the Blues Eldorados | 9 pm |
| Sunday   | July 12 | Tommy Bankhead<br>rides again           | 4 pm |

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## Steaming in Soulard

by Tonca Yarbrough

The 125th anniversary of the birth of American architect Frank Lloyd Wright seemed the appropriate time to visit one of the grandest and best-preserved of his designs. The Dana-Thomas House in Springfield, Illinois is a pleasant two-hour train ride from St. Louis and a small but exuberant contingent from *The Renaissance* made this journey on Saturday, May 16.

We met at the modest modular Amtrak terminal at 7:30 a.m. After a photo opportunity with railroad personnel we boarded the train, reminisced a bit about our last train rides and asked directions to the dining car. Breakfast in the diner was faulty but filling and we opted to remain at the table for the balance of the trip as it made for convenient conversing, and the view was better.

The train takes a semi-scenic route along the river until crossing into Illinois near North Grand. After a brief stop at Alton, we glided and swayed across the Illinois flatlands through Carlinville, Nilwood, Gerard and other unidentifiable hamlets. We were fortunate to have as our tour guide and social director former Springfield resident and SRG secretary, Sue Varner. Sue was familiar with some of the towns and pointed out points of interest.

On our arrival in Springfield we found Old Capitol Plaza buzzing with excitement. The 31st annual Springfield Old Capitol Art Fair was just opening and hundreds of artists representing

every media displayed their creations for sale and competition. From painting to sculpture, jewelry to weaving, pottery to photography; the choices were limitless. I was particularly attracted to a long-legged pink flamingo wearing sneakers, but practically overcame whimsy and I left flamingo-less. Our crusading editor and favorite innkeeper fancied a scrap iron reindeer, but ever concerned with code, decided to mull it over.

In the center of the activity the Old Capitol building was open for self-guided tours. We were immersed in history—predominantly Lincoln history—by enthusiastic and knowledgeable members of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. The building no longer hosts public events we were told, due to "drastic budget cuts" by the State of Illinois. By the way, do you know the name of Lincoln's vice-president during his first term as president?

We had looked forward to lunch since just after breakfast when our tour guide Sue had told us of a Springfield culinary phenomenon—the Horseshoe. A Horseshoe is a sandwich with french fries on top of it, all covered with a cheese sauce—a secret cheese sauce. The original Horseshoe was made with a horseshoe-shaped ham, but it is now available with your choice of filling.

Norb Andy's offered a variety of Horseshoes and a familiar ambience. The restaurant is a few steps below the sidewalk in a 150 year old building. We perused the list, a bit non-plused when we read "deduct \$1.00 for Pony." To our relief it meant a smaller version of the Horseshoe. We ordered three different Ponies to share and found the food to be everything Sue had promised.



We then visited Lincoln's home—the only one he ever owned. Restored in 1987, the house is maintained by the National Park Service. The tickets for the tour are free; however, our assigned time was going to throw us off our "alleged schedule." Luckily, we fell in with a group of school children from Iowa whose teacher had extra tickets for the next tour and we were back on track. The teacher was a St. Louis enthusiast, said she and her husband come here often, and was given a card and the Soulard schmooze by crusading editor/innkeeper.

Many furnishings in the Lincoln home are original; all are said to be authentic. Though patterns and colors of wallpaper and carpeting seem garish by today's standards, they were fitting for a prominent family of the period. One interesting note involved floor coverings. As looms were only 36 inches wide, panels were sewn together to make wall-to-wall carpeting. Twice a year Mrs. Lincoln took the panels apart and out to the backyard to be beaten. This operation took a month each time and we surmised this could have contributed to the decline of her mental health in later years.



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The Dana-Thomas House—In 1902 Susan Lawrence, Springfield socialite, commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright to design her home. It was a unique project from the beginning as Wright was to incorporate Susan Dana's 30 year old family home into the construction. Two years later the finished product included furniture, fabrics, light fixtures and artglass; all designed by the architect. Until the State of Illinois purchased the house in 1981 it had had only two owner-occupants: Dana, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thomas, who used it for offices for their publishing firm. The building and its furnishings are marvelously intact.

The house is of buff brick; long narrow bricks unlike those most of us are accustomed to. Wide overhanging eaves from varying roof levels are bordered with distinctive patterned guttering which turns upward at the corners. One imagines that this incongruous structure created as much stir in 1904 as would the Starship Enterprise landing in Pontiac Park today.



Our tour began with a brief slide show about the restoration. Then, through an impressive arched entry, we were guided through 12,600 square feet of Frank Lloyd Wright unity of purpose. Many of the furnishings are built-in. Each of the pieces, from a forerunner of the reclining chair to the terra cotta sculptures, was designed and placed according to plan. It appears as if the architect worked as a painter or musician would. One misplaced stroke or one errant note destroys the intent of the artist.

Dark wood paneling and beams dominate the interior. Where there is paint it is dark shades of rust, orange, and gold. We were told one room had six different shades. We could identify four. Wright incorporated the lighting and lamps into the project and discouraged use of any others.

The most obvious preserved feature of Susan Dana's old family home is a small Victorian parlor with a marble fireplace. It is the only fireplace with a mantle. Wright did not place mantles on his fireplaces lest the resident display an inconsistent piece of bric-a-brac or family photo. A frieze of small butterflies beneath the mantle is believed to have been Wright's inspiration for some of the artglass panels in which the colorful creatures appear. Our guide told us it was the only house in which the architect used animal designs.

Other experimental components of the design make the Dana-Thomas house unique among Frank Lloyd Wright's work. Barrel-vaulted ceilings in the gallery and dining rooms were incorporated in only one of his other projects—his own home. An original mural in the dining room was mercifully preserved by the Thomases. In the basement is a full ten-pin alley and a cloak room with hooks for 150 wraps. The house was equipped with an elec-

tronic security system, and the bathroom features Springfield's first shower.

The Dana-Thomas House, like many Springfield attractions is managed by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and due to those "major budget cuts" is open only on Thursdays and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. The tour, including slide show, takes about 45 minutes. There is no charge.

This was the focus and the jewel of our trip. However, it was reassuring to see history, art and beauty of over 200 years preserved in all areas of the city. How sad it would be if we ever have to choose between survival for the future and the treasures of the past.

Sue Varner once worked at the "new" Capitol Building and provided us with a private, "inside" tour of the building. Once again we found careful and costly restoration. Inside the dome, priceless stained glass sparkles and once unrecognizable sculpture has regained its former dignity.

Our train was to leave a 7 p.m. There was time for refreshments at Two Brothers and dinner at Norb Andy's. We passed on the Horseshoes and opted for prime rib.

Our conductor for the return trip, Mr. Washington, seemed to be in a big hurry to return to St. Louis. We arrived at the terminal 15 minutes ahead of schedule—a bit weary, a lot reflective, anticipating our next field trip. As Souland ambassadors we had missed no chance to proselytize; from a young woman from Fairview Heights travelling with her young son to the art show to the Iowa school teacher to our gracious server at Norb Andy's.

Well, do you know who Lincoln's vice-president was during his first term in office? Hannibal Hamlin! Honest!



# Souland

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

# SECRETARY'S CORNER

by Susan Varner, Secretary  
Soulard Restoration Group

Following are some highlights of the Membership and Board Meetings for the months of April and May:

**Membership Meeting, April 1**—called to order at 7:47 p.m. by President Richard Eaton. 60 people were present, including 10 visitors. The Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were approved. The Board Meeting Report was amended to correct the neighborhood designation as "Historic Commercial," in the CDA and CDC's theme district development Crime Prevention Committee Chairman Bob Kraiberg introduced five new police officers in the 3rd District. The officers answered several questions posed by the members. Code and Zoning Committee Chairman Fred Andres gave an informational presentation, defining zoning, permit procedures, application for zoning variances and rezoning. Peter Sortino, Director of Operation Conserve and Jack Garvey, candidate for Circuit Attorney, were introduced. Membership/Special Events Committee Liaison Chuck Coker displayed SRG coffee cups, which are now for sale for \$4 each. He urged all those attending the membership meetings to wear their name tags. There are 20 new members since January. Bids are being taken on the house plaques. Residential Promotion Chairman Gary Siddens reported on the Souland for Sale open house event, to be on Sunday, May 10. Players are needed for the softball team. Sponsorship for the team is 50% SRG and 50% 9th Street Abbey. Fundraising—Kathy Siddens reported that application has been made to the Philanthropic Association. Ways and Means—Nancy Adams announced that it has been decided to have the VP Fair Booth this year. Nancy invited everyone interested in continuing this event to come to the meetings to help with organization. Under Old Business, Fred Andres moved that "we give \$2,000 to the Lafayette Square Association to help reduce their legal costs regarding the St. Mary's Honor Center," which carried unanimously. Richard Eaton read the proposed bylaw change. Discussion followed regarding the issues. A ballot vote was taken. The motion failed. The social was held at Susan Varner's home. (60 people in a phone booth).

**Board Meeting, April 15**—Held at the home of Gary Siddens. President Richard Eaton called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m. Rob Wright attended as SRG's representative to a combined committee of concerned residents and business owners, to give a report on the Souland Market Parking Lot situation. The Fundraiser for Foot Patrol to be held Sunday, April 26, at 9th Street Abbey. New stationery, envelopes and brochures will be printed on recycled paper. Richard Eaton reported that areas of the Souland Market Park plaza will be tilled, with low evergreen shrubs and trees planted as part of Operation Brightside. Gary Siddens reported the feature house at the Souland for Sale event (May 10) is the newly restored one-family home at 1827 S. 9th. 40 other properties are also being offered. Jeanne Weber reported that five homes were sold as a direct result of last year's event. Ways & Means Liaison Nancy

Adams asked if members were interested in helping with organization and working at the VP Fair booth this July 4 weekend. Response was enthusiastic. Charles Ryburn asked for a donation of \$250 for the public garden on 9th St. It was decided to take the money from the Community Outreach Committee.

**Membership Meeting, May 6**—Called to order at 7:50 p.m., by President Richard Eaton. 92 people were present, including 24 visitors. As a special agenda item, Dr. David Mahan, Superintendent of the St. Louis Public School System, presented a brief report on the city school system. He asked membership support in preventing the property tax rollback proposal, on the ballot June 2. Beautification Committee Chairman Mary Sheridan outlined Operation Brightside plans for the upcoming weekend. Miles Summers reported on the foot patrol fundraiser at 9th Street Abbey, which brought in over \$8,000 and was considered an overwhelming success. The Renaissance Editor Carlis Dawson introduced Jay Gibbs, Guest Editor for the latest edition. He also thanked others who helped with the issue. Lillian Warren, a neighborhood artist, was introduced, and samples of her watercolors were displayed. Prizes were awarded to Jeanne Weber, Jay Gibbs and Susan Varner for bringing the most guests to the meeting. St. Mary's Honor Center—Alderman Phyllis Young reported on last-minute budget appropriation problems with the legislature in Jefferson City. A letter-

writing campaign is in process to Senator Banks to oppose deletion of any funds for this project. Souland Market Park Proposal—No resolution has been made by the Coalition Committee. The market managers may present their plan at the June membership meeting. Circuit Attorney candidates Dee Joyce Hays and Jack Garvey were introduced and made brief comments. The special membership social was held at Train-ers, 10th and Souland Streets.

**Board Meeting, May 20**—Held at the palatial estate of yours truly. President Richard Eaton called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Joanie Thomas from the 1860's Saloon was present as a guest, representing the Souland Business Association. Joanie distributed a press release of activities for the Bastille Day weekend, July 10, 11, and 12. Included will be a beheading, wine tasting, music, food and a bicycle race. Volunteers are needed to monitor the race route to ensure safety. Taste of Souland tickets will be \$10, wine tasting tickets \$5, with wine being for sale by the bottle and case. The SRG has been invited to participate in the SBA information booth. Chuck Coker showed samples of the new SRG stationery, envelopes, thank you cards, note cards and brochures. Membership cards will be available in July. In July, prorated renewal notices will be sent, with the goal to make all dues payable July 1 of each year. Baseball night is planned for Monday, June 29 (which is group discount night) with tickets being \$15

each. T-shirt designs were discussed, at a cost of \$6 or \$7 each. SRG coffee mugs are selling well at Souland Manor and Bon Appetit. Gary Siddens will schedule the Lafayette Square-Souland softball game in July, with the 18th the most likely date. The picnic will be in late August (probably the 22nd). A potluck format is favored. Hours will be noon to 6 p.m. A summer garage sale will be held. No definite dates yet. Richard Eaton showed photos of the cleanup at 9th & Sidney. \$800 was spent on shrubs for Souland Market. Three trees were cut down and eight planted at the market. 35 people participated in the Operation Brightside project. Gary Siddens reported Souland for Sale lost \$100 this year, probably due to Mother's Day and a Cardinals' home game. He asked for input on dates for the upcoming house tours. Renovation of the Phillips 66 Station lot was okayed after landscaping plans were submitted. Nortons' has extended the courtyard, is expanding the kitchen and putting a bar in the back. The Souland Neighborhood Improvement Association commended the SRG for awarding \$500 to two area residents for their help in apprehending and convicting a burglar. The Dept. of Public Utilities has asked the SRG to watch for fire hydrant vandalism.



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**2637 So. 12th** : 3,000 plus sq. ft. mansion rehabbed and in excellent condition. Lot's of light with 26 windows! Pine floors on 1st, Oak on 2nd & 3rd floors. Insulated windows with view to river & arch. Updated kitchen, MBR suite with dressing room, F/R with W/B fireplace. \$154,000.



**814 Ann** : Top of the line contemporary 6 year old Wotka designed town house set in pretty courtyard. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, parking alarms, oak floors, gorgeous w/b, master suite with balcony track lights, full basement. \$92,500.



**2355 So. 11th** : Superb blend of the historic and contemporary in this 3 story Souland quality rehab. Appx 2,500 sq. ft. 3.5 baths, master bedroom with dressing room. Beautiful pine floors, pocket doors, working F/P, southern aspect, lovely gardens. See it to believe it! \$139,000.



**2327 So. 12th** : Fabulous opportunity to acquire one of only three true mansions remaining in Souland, built in 1890 by Charles Lange used for movie sets!! Beautifully preserved formal L/R with cherrywood mantle, Art Nouveau style D/R, in ground pool with decks, oversized garage! \$149,000.



**2422 Menard** : Huge townhouse ready to rehab! Four bedrooms and one bath. Liveable 1st floor with updated kitchen. New water service, newer roof, newer sewer. 1st floor plumbing newer. 2nd floor roughed in. Some electric updates. \$39,500.



**1925R So. 9th** : Alley house with all updated systems. Brand new carpet onebedroom and one bath. \$49,000.



**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.



**2318 So. 9th** : Three story atrium, three levels of decks including roof with arch & downtown view. Master bedroom with woodburner, huge closets, all new systems, gut rehab in early 80's. Tiny amount of TLC. \$99,500.



**1317 Shenandoah** : Four bedroom, 3.5 bath wonderful victorian, updated systems, marble fireplaces, great room with spiral staircase and woodburning fireplace, deck, security system and updated kitchen. \$102,000.



**1929 So. 9th** : Great Souland 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.



**2504/6 So. 12th** : Fantastic investment opportunity for owner occupier or developer, two units already partially rehabbed and liveable, will go into two townhouses + 2 1 or 2 bed apartments or potential 6 family building in good shape. \$74,500.



**726 Shenandoah** : Very liveable fixer upper with four car garage, workshop at rear. Three bedrooms and two baths, above ground pool, zoned commercial. \$46,500.



**1840 So. 10th** : 1820's built Souland townhouse, gut rehabbed in 1986. On the register of national historic buildings. Excellent first time buy. Great location, with three bedrooms 1.5 baths, C/A, off street parking. \$76,000.



**2352 So. 10th** : Impressive three story atrium/stairway. Huge closets, great master/suite, small yard. Three bedrooms and 2.5 baths, recently rehabbed with new furnace, water service and tuckpointing. \$75,000.



**1912 So. 10th** : Neat free standing two story with garage. Gut rehabbed 5 years ago, new roof this year, W/B fireplace in L/R, great kitchen/diner. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. \$72,500.