

The Soulard Restorationist

VOLUME I ISSUE IX

NOVEMBER, 1977

Agenda

Following is the tentative agenda for the membership meeting to be held at Trinity Lutheran Church Hall, Soulard and Eighth, at 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, November 2nd:

1. Election of officers and Board members.
2. Guest Speaker, rehabilitation architect, Gary Glenn.
3. Wrap up of Fall House Tour, 1977 and new plans for Christmas Tour, 1977.
4. Social Hour following the meeting at location to be announced.

Notes from last meeting

Following is a summary of the minutes from the Soulard Restoration Group meeting held October 5, 1977, 7:30 P.M. at Trinity Lutheran Church:

Tower Grove Bank gave a slide presentation of South St. Louis entitled "The Challenge of Change."

Mr. John Rataj from CDA discussed some of the grant proposals. One of them was a request for multi-

purpose courts in Pontiac Park; however, these would cut into an existing ballfield. Lori Mazdra volunteered to head a committee to study alternatives. Mr. Rataj also discussed plans for Soulard Market parking lots. Gary Cope will co-chair the committee with Lori Mazdra to investigate this proposal. This committee will also act as a liaison with CDA.

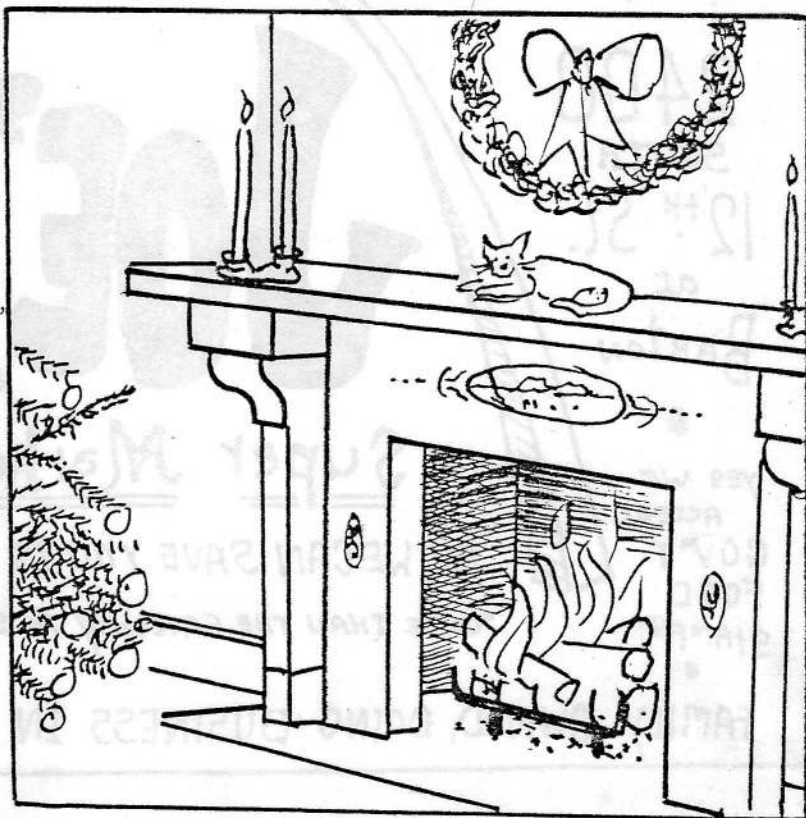
The nominations committee presented the slate of candidates, and nominations were also taken from the floor:

President: Charles Derleth -- Vice President: Hillary Clements, Jim Mazdra -- Secretary: Pat Finkelstein, Phyllis Young, Barbara Wilp -- Treasurer: Delores Phelps -- Board (3 openings): Gary Cope, Mary Johnson, Paul Kjorlie, C. Marit Sherry, Al Swenson, Paul Houghland, Carol Ray, Don Bennett.

CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR

The Second Annual Soulard Christmas Parlor Tour is scheduled for Sunday, December 11th, 1977 from 3:00 until 7:00 in the evening. Six homes will be open to the public located in a well-lighted five block area of Soulard.

Each parlor will be decorated in



a Victorian theme with candles, ornaments and numerous antique toys. Christmas cookies and seasonal beverages will be served along with a generous helping of spirited carols. The St. Louis Police Department will provide officers on horse-back to assist in directions and to answer any questions which may arise.

Admission is \$3.00 for adults, children under 12 years old are free when accompanied by an adult. For additional information please call 771-4191.

NEW BUILDING TO BE ERECTED IN ST. AGATHA

At the September meeting of the Landmarks and Urban Design Commission Anheuser-Busch, Inc. proposed the building of a new trucking center on the north-east corner of 7th and Utah Streets. The over all building design was very well done and would enhance and improve the corner immensely. The building would be approximately 45 feet wide and 60 feet deep. Constructed of brick, it would be one story in height. The remainder of the block would be used as parking space for trailers to be serviced or to be stored.

A conflict over the lot screening arose between members of the commission, Anheuser-Busch's architect and Skip Gatermann, SRG's representative at the meeting. Anheuser-Busch wanted the entire lot to be enclosed by a chain link fence. CDA wanted the Utah, Broadway and Wyoming sides of the lot screened with something a little more pleasing to the eye. Gatermann objected to the fact that the Seventh Boulevard side was being omitted from consideration and that it was perhaps the most important side, as it is the only side which fronts on residential property.

Lynn Springer, a commissioner, also objected to leaving the Seventh Blvd. side exposed. She said it would have a detrimental affect on the residences facing the lot. The CDA representative seemed more concerned with what motorists on Broadway would see as they passed the lot. The architect for the project said that the residential side of the block mattered little because it is mostly vacant lots.

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(A survey of the block after the meeting revealed only one vacant lot.)

The matter was not resolved and a committee was appointed to handle the various viewpoints and to make decisions on screening materials. However, a representative from the neighborhood was not included on the review committee.

NOTED ARCHITECT TO SPEAK

Gary Glenn, noted rehabilitation architect, is to speak at the Soulard Restoration Group's monthly meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:30 P.M. on November 2, 1977. Mr. Glenn has done work on residential, commercial and office facilities throughout the area. His area of knowledge also includes solar heating. Mr. Glenn has already begun design work and executed solar heating into the renovation of older structures. Most of Mr. Glenn's work has been done in the Central West End area of the city. A slide presentation will accompany his talk.

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Exercise your right to vote in the SRG elections at the November General Membership meeting. Nominees are listed below for your consideration.

President: (Vote for one)

Charles Derleth. Charlie is the owner of 2355 South 11th Street. He has served as a board member for the past year and is an active member of the House Tour and Newsletter committees.

Vice President: (Vote for one)

Hilary Clements. Hilary owns his home at 1015-17 Russell Blvd. He has been active in SRG fund raising efforts and has been an integral part of many of Soulard's house tours.

Jim Mazdra. The four family house at 1847 South 10th Street is owned by Jim and his wife, Lori. Jim has served the SRG this past year as one of our main speakers from our Speakers Bureau. Jim has also been an occasional contributor to the Newsletter.

Secretary: (Vote for one)

Pat Finkelstein. 2219 S. 12th Street is the home of Pat and Rick Finkelstein. Pat is a member of the Membership Committee. She has devoted many hours to the fund raising efforts of the SRG.

Barbara Wilp. The beautiful townhouse at 1204 Allen Avenue is owned by Barbara and Bill Wilp. Barbara is a new face in Soulard and is anxious to serve the restoration group.

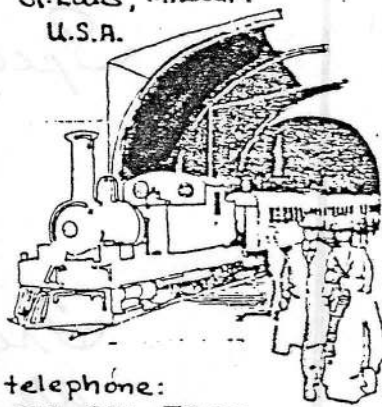
Phyllis Young. Phyllis and Jim Young reside in the townhouse at 905 Lami Street. Phyllis is new to Soulard and is excited over the opportunities to serve the SRG.

Treasurer: (Vote for one)

Dolores Phelps. Dolores and Dick Phelps are not new faces to Soulard, but they are new residents, just having moved into 1208 Russell Blvd. Dolores has served on the House Tour Committee and was instrumental in producing the SRG's new cookbook.

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Member of the Board of Directors: (Vote for three)

Don Bennett. Don and his wife, Laurel, live in a small rowhouse at 922 Russell Blvd. Don has been an active member of the SRG and served on the founding committee of the Newsletter.

Gary Cope. Gary, Mira and their two children live in a townhouse at 911 Soulard Street. Gary serves the SRG on the House Tour Committee, House Sales Committee, Newsletter Committee and is a present board member.

Paul Houghland. Paul and Jane Houghland live at 1841 South 10th Street. Paul has been serving the group as a member of the Grant Proposals Committee.

Mary Johnson. Mary and Joe Johnson are restoring a home at 1027 Lami Street. Mary is a member of the House Tour Committee and is a past secretary of the board.

Paul Kjorlie. The half flounder house at 2307 South 11th Street is the home of Paul Kjorlie. Paul has been instrumental in the production of our community block grant proposals. Paul is a frequent contributor to the newsletter and illustrated the Fall, 1977 House Tour Booklet.

Carol Ray. Carol is a member of the Linden Tree Guild, a venture restoring 1224-1226 Victor Street. She is a newcomer to Soulard and is ready to work hard in the capacity of Board Member, if elected.

Marit Sherry. Marit lives in an apartment at 1827 South 10th Street. Marit has worked on our house tours and is a member of the Membership Committee.

Al Swenson. The store front at 2330 Menard Street is under restoration by Al. Al, who recently moved to Soulard, is delighted at the chance to serve the SRG in an official capacity.

RECIPES FROM HISTORIC SOULARD

Have you picked up your copy of Recipes From Historic Soulard? With Christmas just around the corner, they make perfect gifts. At \$3.75 per copy, they are truly a bargain. Call Darlene at 771-4191 for details.

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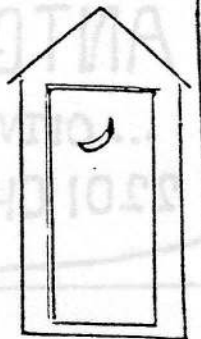
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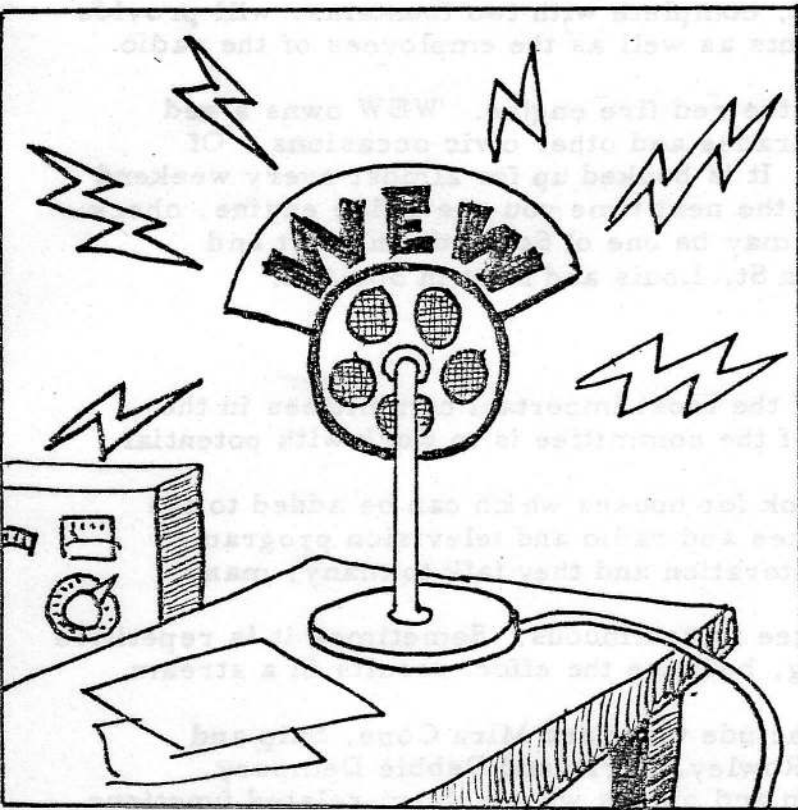
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WEW COMES TO SOULARD



QUESTION: What does the first radio station in St. Louis have in common with the Soulard Historic District, cigars, an 85 year old building and a red fire engine?

ANSWER: Charles P. Stanley.

Charles P. Stanley is the president and principal stockholder in WEW radio (AM 77), the first radio station in St. Louis. WEW began broadcasting in 1913. At that time, it was owned and operated by St. Louis University. Mr. Stanley describes WEW as a "middle of the road" radio station. It plays mainly easy listening music and features the only radio program in St. Louis with a live band, the Russ David show, which is broadcast Mondays through Fridays. On December 1st of this year, WEW will begin broadcasting from Soulard.

Charles P. Stanley is a life long resident of St. Louis. His father and grandfather were both cigar makers in the Gateway City, which probably explains why Charles always has a half finished cigar near at hand. Instead of following in the family business, Mr. Stanley ended

up in broadcasting. He hired on with WEW in 1959, as a salesman. By 1964, he was the president and principal stockholder. In addition to his responsibilities at the radio station, Mr. Stanley is the president of the Museum of Transportation and the chairman of the board of the Judevine Center for Autistic Children. Restoration is nothing new to Mr. Stanley. He and his family have restored a home which had been abandoned for three years, and a swimming pool which had not seen water for 25 years.

The lease on WEW's current headquarters, at 517 Stadium Plaza, expires this year. Given the history of the radio station and the history of the station's president, it was only natural that WEW would decide to move to one of St. Louis's historic areas. They began looking in the Laclede's Landing area, but could not find a building there to their needs at a price they wanted to pay. They were attracted to Soulard by the area's commercial and residential possibilities and were especially intrigued by the New Orleans flavor of the north end. After viewing several buildings, they decided to make their new home in the commercial building at the corner of Eighth and Lafayette, across the street from Soulard Market.

The three story structure at Eighth and Lafayette was built sometime around

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1892. It features 3,000 square feet of space per floor. When the renovation is complete, the building will house the WEW studios, four townhouse apartments and two one bedroom apartments. A courtyard, complete with two fountains, will provide off street parking for the apartment residents as well as the employees of the radio station.

That explains everything, except for the red fire engine. WEW owns a red fire engine, which is made available for parades and other civic occasions. Of course, Mr. Stanley drives the fire truck. It is booked up for almost every weekend during the spring and summer months. So the next time you see a fire engine, check to see if the driver is smoking a cigar. It may be one of Soulard's newest and proudest property owners. WEW is first in St. Louis and first in Soulard.

SELLING SOULARD

By Clark Rowley

The House Sales Committee is one of the most important committees in the Soulard Restoration Group. The purpose of the committee is to work with potential buyers, helping them to find a building.

As part of this process, members look for houses which can be added to the housing list. They participate in conferences and radio and television programs. They produce signs for buildings under restoration and they talk to many, many potential buyers.

The work of members of the committee is continuous. Sometimes it is repetitive and futile. Sometimes it is very rewarding, because the effort results in a stream of new people moving into Soulard.

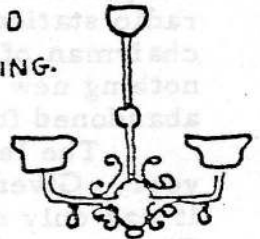
Members of the housing committee include Gary and Mira Cope, Skip and Darlene Gatermann, Judy Johnson, Clark Rowley, Jerry and Debbie Dempsey, Cecelia Cappiello, Rick and Pat Finkelstein and others who perform related functions, such as Jim Mazdra and Ruth Day, who operate outreach programs as participants

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in the Speakers Bureau, addressing groups and appearing on radio and television shows.

In reality, however, everybody in the Soulard Restoration Group is a member of the House Sales Committee. This stems from the fact that the Soulard Restoration Group is selling more of an idea than a commodity. The commodity, of course, includes the house or building and the architectural heritage of the structure. This is the particular object with which we are working.

But there is something more important which goes with the houses. That is the concept of Soulard as a community, one which is struggling to build itself back up, to bolster itself so that it becomes a viable neighborhood.

Implied in this concept is the idea that, because we are all working so hard, we are brought closer together. We have common goals and needs. To accomplish these objectives, we must work together - we share ideas on repairs and restoration, we share tools and materials and we share muscle. To a great degree, this is true. Somebody who encounters a problem in his house goes to somebody else in the group for a proposed solution. Materials and tools, such as ladders, drills and other items, are shared around. On the muscle side, I really cannot speak, although I have pretended to help move Judy Johnson's scaffolding several times, while Skip has done the actual work.

As the result of this sharing, we develop a real sense of community.

This sense of community is lacking in many other neighborhoods. In other neighborhoods, there is not usually the common theme which we have, a theme which becomes a common bond.

Members of the House Sales Committee have heard time and again the comment that "everybody seems so friendly," or "you all work together." Realistically, of course, all of us have different ideas, methods and interests. It is not necessary to try to create the idea that we all think and act the same.

What is essential is that we all participate in working with new buyers, because

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nothing is more important to Soulard than the sale of those buildings which are for sale. At the same time, by working with potential buyers, we show that we do believe in the neighborhood, and that we are establishing the foundation for a viable community.

Many times members of the committee are told: "Well, I talked to somebody a couple of blocks over, and he told me to come up here and get a housing list." The committee members do a lot more than just give out housing lists. We answer questions, we make suggestions and we try to give people a feel for the neighborhood. But you can help do that. Really, it is sort of a turn-off to just refer people to somebody else.

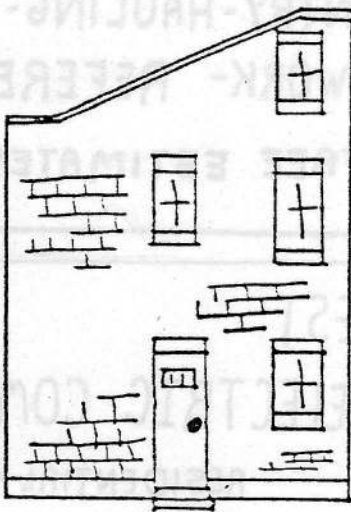
What the housing committee asks, therefore, is that when you encounter a potential buyer, that you work with that buyer, showing the person your house, discussing your ideas about the neighborhood, answering questions about crime and schools and home repairs and costs.

Do not just refer people to Mira Cope or Skip Gatermann. Present your views, show your enthusiasm and your spirit, get the potential buyer involved as soon as possible. If you do not have a housing list, and the potential buyer does not have one either, then, if possible, personally escort the person to one of the housing offices.

In the meantime, try to find out what size and style of house the person is seeking. If the potential buyer does not know, then suggest a four-family, or a single family, or discuss the pro's and con's of different types of buildings.

Sometimes a person who is green to the neighborhood will ask a stupid question, such as: "What are those wooden things below the slate roof?" Well, they are cornices, of course. Is that something to be abrupt about? Not really, because we all were pretty green when we first looked at Soulard. And the endless questions about crime, about heating bills, about what did this cost you, etc., etc., all deserve a polite answer. And polite answers and helpful information are how

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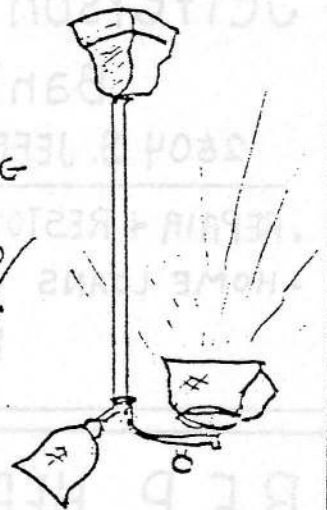
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we will get the shells sold and the neighborhood repaired.

For people who have not tried to sell houses, remember that the housing offices have housing lists, books which list the owners of all property in Soulard, maps, folders and other miscellaneous information. But, more important than all these sales aids is you, because you have the ability to develop a rapport with a potential purchaser and show that person that Soulard is indeed a community, that we do work together and that Soulard offers something for everybody.

Give it a try, and the House Sales Committee will be most grateful. More important, however, you may help sell the shell down the street from you.

A YUMMY HOLIDAY TREAT!

By Larry Hollenberg

I suppose you could call any trip to the Crown Candy Company a Holiday, particularly if you are a hot fudge sundae "nut" like I am. Speaking of nuts, the hot fudge pecan sundae is a wonderfully sticky blend of creamy homemade ice cream, dark rich fudge topping and pecan nuts. Served in tall containers made of, lets see now, not plastic, not paper, oh yes ... they call it glass!

Add to all that the authentic trappings of the corner ice cream/candy store, complete with the original booths, ceiling fans and a collection of advertising memorabilia, and one feels transplanted back in time at least 50 years.

Best of all, you have a whole wall of choices guaranteed to add a few pounds here and there, in my case mostly there.

So take a holiday, or make a holiday, but one day or the other find your way to 14th Street and St. Louis Avenue in historic Hyde Park and celebrate. It will be a delicious experience.

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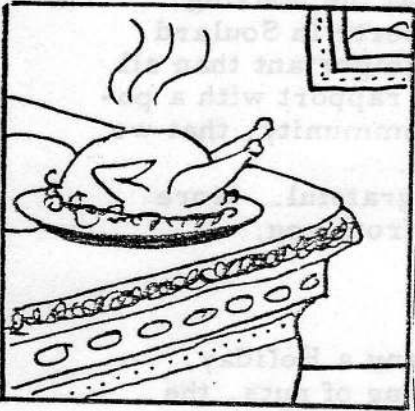
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SOULARD COOK BOOK OFFERS A VARIETY OF DISHES



Variety is the key word for the new book of recipes compiled by members of the Soulard Restoration Group. Recipes from Historic Soulard, the brainchild of Darlene Gatermann and Delores Phelps, contains 200 dishes, ranging from Potato Soup to Deutsch-Ungarischen Zotlichen Kuchen (German Hungarian Pull Apart Cake).

"The people living in Soulard come from such diverse backgrounds," explained Mrs. Phelps, "that we knew that we would come up with all kinds of recipes. Over the years, Soulard has been a home for many different immigrant groups and many of our recipes reflect this ethnic mix. We have German Potato Salad, Hungarian Goulash, Bohemian Ham Flakes, Polish Blueberry Pierogi, Lebanese Sfeehas, Lithuanian Kugala, Bulgarian Yoghurt, English Bully Pudding and Coq au Vin."

The following recipe for Pennsylvania Dutch Shoo-Fly Pie was submitted by Luanne Rimel. Luanne got the recipe from her grandmother.

1/2 c. molasses

1 eg yolk, well beaten

Crumbs:

3/4 c. flour

1/2 c. brown sugar

2 tbsp. shortening

1/8 tsp. nutmeg

1/2 tbsp. soda, dissolved in

3/4 c. boiling water

1/8 tsp. ginger

1/8 tsp. cloves

1/2 tsp. cinnamon

1/4 tsp. salt

Combine dry ingredients, working in shortening. Line pie pan with pastry. Pour liquid into pie shell. Top with crumbs and bake in a 450 degree oven until crust edges start to brown. Reduce heat to moderate (350 degrees) and bake until firm (about 20 minutes). Liquid and crumb layers may be alternated for a more cake-like texture. Makes one 9" pie.

Also contained in Recipes from Historic Soulard are numerous hints and cooking aids, such as a time table for cooking meats, how to make 26 types of sandwich fillings and a protein and calorie chart.

Copies of Recipes from Historic Soulard can be obtained from Skip Gatermann or by sending a check or money order for \$4.00 per copy desired (\$3.75 plus 25¢ postage and handling) to:

COOKBOOKS

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St. Louis, Mo. 63157

Proceeds from the sale of Recipes from Historic Soulard go to the Soulard Restoration Group, a not-for-profit organization composed of residents and property owners in the Soulard Historic District.

Brendon's



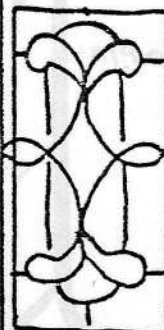
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SIGN LANGUAGE

Are you the proud owner of one of the lovely maroon "Restoration Information" signs? Well, if you are, the language on the sign is about to be changed. Yes, the phone number is going to be changed to accommodate calls all day long. Each member should contact Rick or Pat Finkelstein at 664-7558 to recycle your sign. If your sign is permanently fastened to a wall call Rick for a special arrangement to have your sign changed in the convenience of your own home. Remember, it is important to have every sign displaying the new number!

EAD'S DREAM

The building of Ead's Bridge was an accomplishment of great importance during the late 19th century. The structure was the first permanent link between the settled East and the Western wilderness with its rich, untapped resources. Captain James B. Eads had never constructed a bridge before, but had a vast knowledge of engineering skill which he put to task on the building of the "Great St. Louis Bridge".

The following is taken from the 1875 survey by Compton and Dry of the construction of Ead's Bridge:

"There is, today, no work of man on the globe so thoroughly combining the useful and the beautiful as the grand steel bridge which stretches its graceful line across the Mississippi at St. Louis, in three spans, unmatched in the history of engineering. While in course of construction it attracted the close attention of the engineers and scientists of Europe, as well as this country; for, as the science of engineering is based upon the observations of practice as well as mathematical demonstrations, it was justly regarded as an experiment upon a grand scale, which would either confirm or overturn some of the most important theories of the age.

When, at last, the great bridge was completed, and the most emphatic announcement of the event made in a formal opening, on the 4th of July, 1874, St. Louis witnessed a civic pageant more striking and more unanimous than had ever occurred in her history. There was, in fact, nothing that could detract from the splendor of the scene or the general joy at a finished work in which every interest of the great States east and west of the river could unreservedly participate. Captain James B. Eads, the chief engineer, who had determined the plans of construction and superintended their execution, was greeted with an enthusiasm that has been rarely seen in modern times.

The style of architecture selected by Captain Eads -- to whom the introduction of steel in this country, in compression, for arches of great extent, is due -- combines strength and solidity with beauty and elegance. It resembles the bridge between Coblenz and Ehrenbreitstein, which has a span of 350 feet. It is distinguished above other large bridges by having double tracks for steam railways entering a tunnel under the city, with an upper floor for vehicles, horse railway, and foot passengers.

When the bridge was completed, the wonder of the retrospect was fully as great as had been the wonder of anticipation, and the story as to how it was done was even more interesting than had been the unaccomplished plans. After the bed rock had been exposed beneath the west abutment, and its solidity tested by drilling, the first stone of the bridge was laid in position, 55 feet below high water mark, on the 25th of February, 1868. The piers were sunk to their enormous depth by means of caissons, on which they were gradually built, and beneath which the excavation was carried on, the water driven out of them by air pumps, the men working in the compressed air.

This plan, so happily conceived, was executed without any material accident, and on the morning of the 18th of September, 1873, the last tube of the last arch was placed in position. The work was now measurably secure, the obstacles which had been constantly arising at every stage of the work were, so far as the bridge itself was concerned, all surmounted, and it only remained to complete the details of building the approaches. This, as before stated, was completed before the 4th of July, 1874, when St. Louis blazoned her achievement before the world."

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Ulysses S. Grant used to sell cordwood at the Soulard Market.

The cost of construction of the present Soulard Market Complex was \$267,000.00.

There is no historical substantiation for the 1779 founding date of Soulard Market.

The Carondelet Bus which runs on 12th Street was originally called the Bellefontaine street car line.

As late as the early 1960's, a horse drawn wagon brought goods to the Soulard Market.

There is no reference to Henri Chatillon in the book The Oregon Trail, by Francis Parkman. (Chatillon was the expedition's guide.)

Most of Soulard at one time was orchard land for various fruits.

Soulard became incorporated into the City of St. Louis in 1841.

The "12th Street Hotel" might be the oldest apartment building west of the Mississippi River.

The successful effort to keep the City of St. Louis out of the hands of the Confederacy began in Soulard.

Soulard is the oldest surviving residential neighborhood in the City of St. Louis.

THE MARKET PLACE

Members may place ads up to 20 words free. To place your ad, call Skip Gatermann at 771-4191 -- before the 12th of each month.

FOR SALE, TRADE OR RENT

Two tons of coal, take all or part, free to the taker. Call John at 776-0454.

For sale: New fiberglass shower stall with base. Still in box. Ready to assemble. \$125.00 Call Tom or Karen at 664-8321 or 776-6020.

For rent: Near Soulard, three rooms, hot water, heat, range, refrigerator furnished. Modern. \$125. Call Dave at 865-3545.

Kitchen sink, good condition, lots of cabinet space. Call Cecelia at 773-8188.

Wardrobe, plain. For sale. Call Cecelia at 773-8188.

Combination woodburning, gas burning, kitchen range circa 1915. In good condition, with all the parts, green in color. Make offer. Call Skip at 771-4191.

Window guards, your choice \$4.00 each. Call Skip at 771-4191.

Large corner bathtub, with plenty of leg room, free. Call Skip at 771-4191.

Poodle puppies, born September 24th, 2 males, one female, \$40.00 each. Call Jan or John at 771-4657.

Ball and claw bath tub, make offer. Call Clark at 664-9195

FOR HIRE

Babysitting, 4 years experience. Call Robin Medvik at 771-4657.

Interior painting, gardening, light labor, part time, reasonable. Call Kenneth Smith after 6:00 P.M. at 664-7757.

Do you need an extra hand? Restoration and repairs of all kinds. Reasonable rates by the hour or job. Call Don Bennett at 865-3583.

Piano teacher. 14 years experience. Beginners only. Any age. At my home. Call Gwyn Preston at 865-0242.

SERVICES

Offer free rent in exchange for work on townhouse, south St. Louis area. References requested. Call 991-2204.

Plumbing work wanted, all types, reasonable rates, free estimates. Call Don Pontious at 772-2186.

Repair and manufacture of windows, ornamental woodwork, stripping, etc.
Call Mike Smith at 771-3556 or 865-2766.

ROSTER UPDATE

Dennis Caldwell, 1707A South 9th St., St. Louis, Mo. 63104. Phone 621-1602.

Bill Cudd, 12016 Charter House Lane, St. Louis, Mo. 63104. Phone 432-6413.

William Ginalich, 316 North Buchanan, Edwardsville, Ill. 62025. Phone 1-618-656-1555 or 865-1866.

Rev. Samuel I. Goldermann, 6712 Alexander Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63116. Phone 231-4092. (Honorary)

Robert Hodge, 3945 Hartford St., St. Louis, Mo. 63116. Phone 773-2764.

Kay Moran, 1731 South 7th Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63104. Phone 241-9658.

Charles P. Stanley, #3 Thorndell, St. Louis, Mo. 63117.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS WHO ARE CONCERNED PRESERVATIONISTS

Mabel Daab, Moonglow Road, R. #1, Centralia, Ill. 62801.

CIRCULATION

Non-members of the Soulard Restoration Group may receive copies of the RESTORATIONIST by completing the form below:

Please send the monthly Soulard RESTORATIONIST Newsletter to my home. Enclosed is \$5.00 in cash for a one year subscription.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

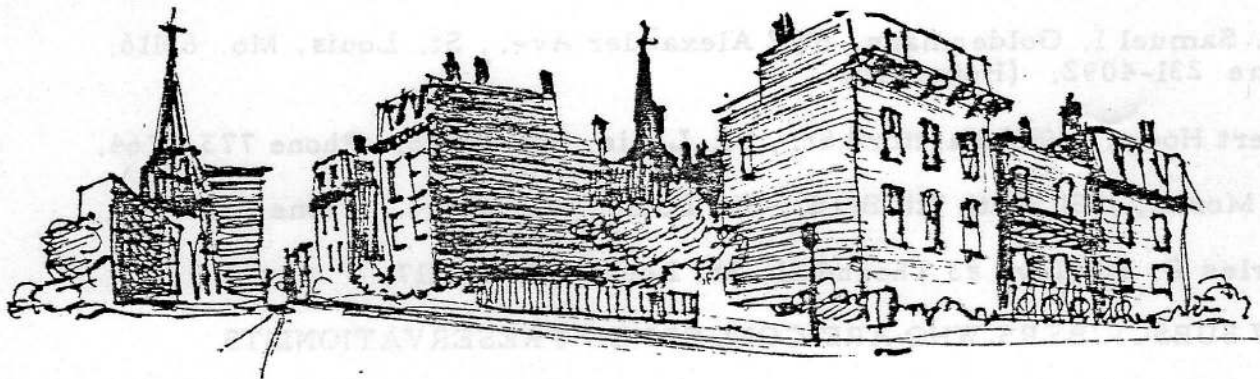
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Send to: The Soulard Restorationist
Box 13312 - Soulard Station
St. Louis, Mo. 63157



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