The Official Journal of the Organization

The Hoboken Historical Museum

Newsletter

OF BY And FOR Museum Members.

MAY 1990 HOBOKEN, NJ No. 38

HOBOKEN ROCKS, MUSEUM ROLLS

The liveliest place in town on Friday night, April 27 was Sharky's at 90 River Street where more than 40 talented Hobokenites strummed, drummed, sang, tootled, and danced at the Hoboken Historical Museum's fourth annual fund-raiser, "Hoboken Follies." Organized by Perry Robinson, Dena Reynolds, and Jim Hans, it was, as predicted, the biggest and best of our annual shows.

The Museum's parched treasury was enriched by $1,269, giving us resources to do an even better job of presenting our community's historic past to the public.

Performers who were not mentioned in the printed program included Manny Duran on trumpet; Ron Wolf, piano; the great Hersch Silverman; and Dennis Darragh with his inventive impromptu dance number.



After Debbie's dance: L to r: "Billy Gee," Manny Duran, Perry Robinson, Frankie Fame, Nina Mars behind Debbie Rothwell, and David Grego. Photo: Bob Foster.

Volunteers at the door and behind the scenes were Maureen Allex, John DePalma, Paul Drexel, John Earl, Bob Foster, Stephen Hefler, Kathi Hoffman, Hugh Kilmer, John Louis, Ann O'Brien, Carol Rogers, Pete Roseta, and Nancy Wenner.

Photographers Bob Foster and John Cropoley snapped many a picture; Marty Andrews, Geri Fallo, Alexander Plewes video-taped the action; Lane of Cries Studios was in the sound booth.

Our thanks to everyone for making it a wonderful evening.

IT'S NICE TO HAVE FRIENDS

Less fun than Hoboken Follies, but more remunerative, was the Museum's direct-mail fund-raising campaign, which brought in almost $4000. The greatly appreciated gifts help provide funding for Museum activities.

We thank these donors:

PHILANTHROPIST ($1000 or more)

Robert J. Burke, President, Union Dry Dock & Repair Co., River Road.

SPONSOR ($500 - $999)

Frank Sinatra

BENEFACTOR ($200-$499)

Mrs. Judith S. Stewart, Union City.

John C. Sweeney, AIA, Design Forum, 114 Willow Ave., Hoboken.

Universal Folding Box Co., Madison & 13th Sts., Hoboken

PATRON ($100-$199)

Miss Irmgard H. Erny, Hoboken

Gerard A. Lisa, Italiano, Lisa & Co., 420 Washington St., Hoboken

Maxwell House (General Foods Corp.), 1125 Hudson St., Hoboken

Alexander J. Plewes III, Hoboken

Elizabeth Leddy Roake, San Mateo

John H. Wessling, Haven Savings Bank, 621 Washington St., Hoboken

Richard P. Widdicombe, S.C. Williams Library, Stevens Inst. of Tech.

Jeff Wilson, Wilson Communications Inc., Saddle Brook

CONTRIBUTORS $5-$99

(All Hoboken unless otherwise noted)

Cristina Andre and Michael Goldfine NYC; Bender Bros, 504-6 Second St; Frederick J. Burgett; Nancy Carnevale Raymond Cerrito, Stan's Sports Center Anthony & Theresa Cilento; Deborah DeSteno; Maureen Dolan; Dorothy F. French, Princeton; Lewis & Sada Fretz Thomas F. Gaynor; Alphonsina A. Grimaldi; Jim & Beverly Hans Stephen Hefler; Kathi Hoffman B. Melvin Kiernan; Mary & Paul Kostka; Steve Kraus, NYC; Gloria Lambson; Alma Leman, West Islip; Bonnie Leppert; Lawrence & Joan Litman; Doug & Lotta Mahoney Ruth Markowitz; Mr. & Mrs. Vincent M. Mastandrea; Tom & Lucelle Mathews; Mrs. Florence P. Maupai, Washington; Douglas G. Mayberry Richard L. Moriarty; Pat & Joe Narciso, Town & Country Crafts William Eric Neu; John Rainier Jane Richards; Marian Roland, President, Hoboken Civic Theatre Vincent & Paula Rossi; Jack Rummel & Ann Lowe; Ken Schultz; Sheilah Scully; Peggy E. Thomas; Joan Torino, Red Heads; Ruth Walker; Lorraine Walsh, formerly of Weehawken; Nancy Wenner; Jane Zeff

HOME SWEET HOME -- FOR 123 YEARS

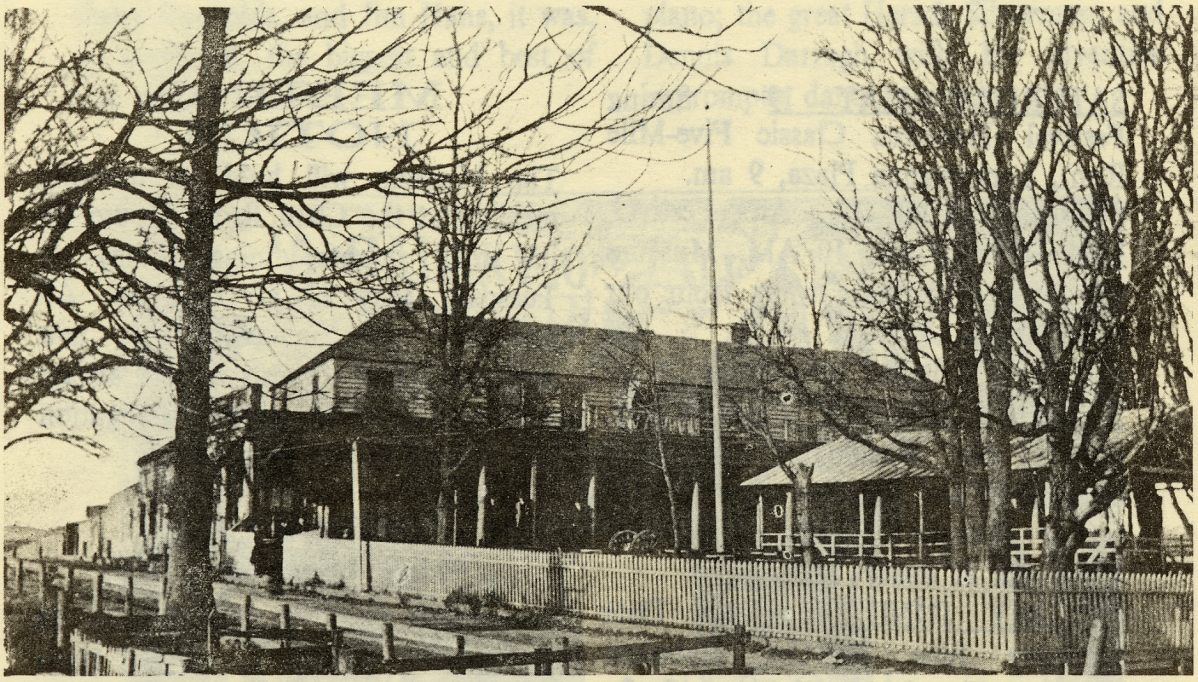
Museum member and Patron Irmgard Erny reminds us (historically) that her residence at 706 Washington St. has been in her family since 1867!

Ernest F. Walter, a photographer who took pictures of Hoboken for postcards during his lifetime was her great uncle and also lived at 706. One of his pictures, of Rodenberg's Tavern, is reproduced here. E. F. Walter's studio was at 402 Washington St. and at one time he lived at 516 Hudson St. with the Willenborg family. Carl Willenborg Sr. was president of the German Club, then at 6th and Hudson. After World War I its name was changed to Union Club. Now the original building has been renovated into apartments and a story added.

Irmgard's uncle, Carl Willenborg Jr., who died a few years ago, was a graduate of Stevens Institute. Her grandmother, Helen Willenborg, was a founder of Saint Mary Hospital.

We thank Miss Erny for this fascinating Hoboken family lore.

E.F. Walter's photo of Rodenberg's Tavern at Hudson and Eleventh St. The main portion dates to 1830 when the establishment was opened by the Stevens family.



RODENBERGS TAVERN AND CANNON IN 1880 ELYSIAN FIELDS, HOBOKEN, N. J.
PUBL. BY E. F. WALTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Museum will participate in the events listed on the next page. We will have a table at which Hoboken memorabilia may be purchased and memberships enrolled. Hope to see you there.

Hoboken Historical Museum
P.O. Box M-1220
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SATURDAY MAY 19 Spring Festival (Hoboken Classic Five-Mile Run), Lackawanna Plaza, 9 am.
SUNDAY JUNE 10 Arts Festival, Lackawanna Plaza, 10 AM. Museum will conduct walking tours from our table 10 am to 7 pm.
Call Steve Kilnisan 659-0802
TUESDAY JUNE 19 Baseball Day, parade on Washington St. and celebration and game at Stevens Park (Little League Field), 7:30 pm. Fireworks at dusk.
SUNDAY JUNE 24 (Rain Date Saturday June 30) 1st Hoboken Museum Flea Market/Antiques/Crafts Sale, Church Sq. Park, 4th & Garden Sts., 10 AM-6 pm. Table space is available: call Bob Foster 656-2240.
MEMBERS & FRIENDS: PLEASE DONATE SALEABLE ITEMS TO MUSEUM FOR FLEA MARKET.

MEETING NOTICE

The Museum will hold its monthly meeting at the Clam Broth House (in its small private dining room) on Tuesday, May 22 at 7:30 pm. All members are invited, and new members and guests are always welcome to sit in without obligation and marvel at the proceedings.

MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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