

Schenectady Colonial Festival 2010

Sunday, February 7, 2010

Historic Schenectady County: A Bicentennial History.

Rededication Sunday is an annual February commemoration at Schenectady's first Church, the First Reformed Church of Schenectady. First church invites the community to its 10:00 AM Rededication Sunday Worship Service and its 11:00 AM Forum hour. Senior Minister, the Rev. Dr. Bill Levering, will be preaching, and Bill Buell will share his new publication on Schenectady County's history. The cover of Buell's book is taken from a painting by historical artist Len Tantillo commissioned by the Schenectady County Historical Society titled *Schenectady Town: A View from Cowhorn Creek, circa 1690*, which shows a likeness of our first church building. The First Reformed Church of Schenectady, NE corner of Union and North Church Streets, Schenectady Stockade – Sanctuary for Worship Service and Poling Chapel for Forum Hour. Worship Service at 10:00 AM, Forum at 11:00 AM. Free

Jazz Vespers – with a Storied Colonial Flare

Jazz Trio Nat Phipps, Tom D'Andrea and Peter Toigo combine with Storyteller Alden (Joe) Doolittle to provide an up-tempo setting for a reprise on the events and times of Schenectady's Colonial past. The church is recognizing its 330th anniversary this year. The First Reformed Church of Schenectady, NE corner of Union and North Church Streets, Schenectady Stockade. 5:00 PM--6:00 PM. Free

Electric City Boogaloo: An Iconic Art Show Plugged into Schenectady's Eclectic, Electric Grid

Electric City Boogaloo is a collaboration of work by Fran & Vincent Giordano that explores innovation and whimsical constructs within popular culture. Fran's paintings of Robots are a retro-futuristic vision of modern mediocrity exploring the joys of day-to-day life. Vincent's photo illustrations of light bulbs meld human nature and human innovation, exploring popular culture as it applies to modern invention. Sow's Ear Studio & Gallery 1597 Upper Union St, Schenectady, NY. Opening reception Friday, February 12, 5-8 PM. Show continues through March 27, 2010. 370-2042

Saturday, February 13, 2010

"New York's First Canals" The National Waterway

1790 – 1820 Retired Director of Museum Services for the New York State Museum, Philip Lord Jr., will talk about the evolution of the New York Canal System. Thanks to Lord's relentless study of documents, maps, aerial photographs and on site fieldwork, the history and location the first ever New York canal was resurrected! Take this chance to learn about canals before the Erie. Schenectady County Historical Society, 32 Washington Ave, Schenectady, NY 12305. 518-374-0263. 1:30 Refreshments 1:30 refreshments, 2:00 program. Free

Monday, February 15, 2010

Delft Tile Painting Learn about the history of Delft Tiles and the different painting techniques. Make a tile to take home! Schenectady County Historical Society, 32 Washington Ave., Schenectady, NY 12305. Pre-registration required. Call for times and prices. 374-0263

Tuesday & Wednesday, February 16 & 17, 2010

Basket Making

Recommended for 5th grade students to adults, this two day class explores the process of weaving baskets. Come for two days of instruction and bring home your own home-made basket! Taught by Beverly Cornelius. Schenectady County Historical Society, 32 Washington Ave., Schenectady, NY 12305. Pre-registration required. Call for times and prices. 518-374-0263

Thursday, February 18, 2010

Wool and Felt Crafts

Recommended for children in kindergarten through third grade, accompanied by an adult. Perfect for our younger students, learn to make two felt animals to bring home (a butterfly and a snake). Taught by Betsy Neal. Schenectady County Historical Society, 32 Washington Ave., Schenectady, NY 12305. Pre-registration required. Call for times and prices. 518-374-0263

Saturday, February 20, 2010

Old Ideas/New Evidence:

Schenectady's Colonial Past (1680-1730)

Many people have been intrigued by interpretations of folklorists, artists and writers about the nature of Schenectady's early settlement and its stockade. Unfortunately, over time some interpretations are erroneously accepted as "truth". In an illustrated talk, members of the Schenectady County Community College – Community Archaeology Program (SCCC-CAP) will challenge some of these "truths" with evidence found in historic documents and at two archaeological sites CAP is excavating in the Stockade Historic District. Displays and refreshments. Schenectady County Public Library Free

On-Going

The Way We Were

A collection of historic photos from the Upper Union Street, Schenectady area This exhibit of photographs of the Upper Union Street area of Schenectady includes a 1949 photo of the Rivoli Theatre at 1615 Union Street. An undated shot shows a sign at the eastern entrance to the city commissioned by the Chamber of Commerce. The welcome sign, one of four that once graced the north, south, east & west entrances to the City of Schenectady depicts a horse-drawn stage coach. In other photos we see a leaf canopied Union Street with cobble stone paved street, model T's and trolley tracks back when St. Helen's Church was at 1620 Union St. A later view of St. Helen's shows a spiffy two door sedan c. 1950 pulling away from the curb. Cars and clothing styles offer clues to help date some of the photos. The photos invite the viewer to looking at rooflines in the photos and compare them with the same sites today. In many cases there are very few changes above the street level. Aperture Media & Photography, 1019 Keyes Ave., Schenectady, NY M-S 10:30 AM – 5PM Free

RECREATION, PRESERVATION, EDUCATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SCHENECTADY
HERITAGE AREA

