

Fells Point Citizens on Patrol^{INC}

A newsletter by and for the people who live, work, and own businesses within the Fells Point area.

January 2004

Volume 6 Number 1

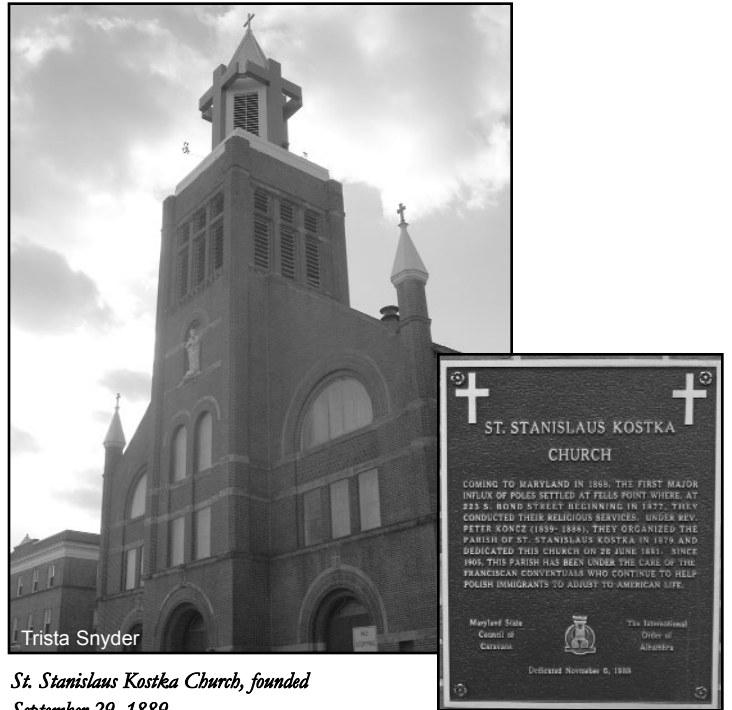
Disposition of St. Stanislaus Church Takes a Turn but Is Still Unsettled

After two and a half years of negotiating, the Franciscan owners of the defunct St. Stanislaus Kostka Roman Catholic Church on South Ann Street rejected sealed proposals from two competing groups of ex-members for purchase of the building, and one of them is seeking funds to increase its reported offer of more than \$300,000. The other, embittered, has given up after offering \$107,000.

Members of the church, founded in 1881 by Polish immigrants, along with its neighbors have sought to keep the building as a museum and to prevent its razing for commercial development. Regular services have not been held there since the diminished congregation was "twinned" into St. Casimir Church in Canton in the 1990s. The Franciscan owners agreed to sell the building, not including extensive adjacent properties, to a parishioner group at a below-market price. But competing groups failed to coalesce, and the offer was withdrawn in favor of seeking market value.

Daniel Kuc, president of a group that incorporated as the St. Stanislaus Society, said the Franciscans first indicated they would establish an asking price but ultimately demanded bids. "We were strung along," said the Aliceanna Street resident. When the order sold the adjacent Mother Seton Academy to its Catholic operators, Kuc's group calculated its offer on that basis and fell far short.

The other group is led by the Rev. Jan Ivan Dornic, who has declared his intention to make the church "a Slavic mecca for Polish, Czech and Ukrainian people." He operates a retirement home nearby, invests in properties and might seek the remaining St. Stans properties facing on Aliceanna Street. However, the cost of the church alone indicates the



Trista Snyder
St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, founded September 29, 1889.

Franciscans' price for those could be daunting. The entire holding is of great concern to the community because at the behest of the congregation it was excluded from the 1972 Urban Renewal Plan that generally governs development height and density in Fells Point.

Kuc said his group's hope to make the building a museum of religious immigrants is consistent with what Father Dornic, an Eastern Rite religious, has set as a goal for his fund-raising, "and if he does it, that's great." He speculated that the selling price could be \$500,000.

January

Outback Fauna Under Cover in 'Point

As the National Aquarium's new building for replication of the Outback takes shape in the Inner Harbor, 270 Australian animals auditioning for the show live on the lam in the Aquarium's warehouse at South Wolfe and Lancaster Streets. The Sun of November 30 described how birds here listen to the radio in a program under curator Jack Cover so they won't be shocked by what they hear when they go on station in the Inner Harbor.

These species turn out to be some of Fells Point's most finicky eaters, including the northern blue-tongued skink. "There are still so many areas of Australia that are still so remote," said Cover. But if all goes well they will become less so.

The Outback building is to open in 2005. The low-profile presence of the Aquarium in Fells Point could take on major stature if it decides to locate a proposed environ-

mental center, incorporating Wolfe Street activities, on public land in the Allied Chemical Harbor Point redevelopment site.

Oysters by the Peck, Polish Sausage

The Sun marked with an engaging obituary the death of John A. Zadroga, 75, who lived above the market he owned at Washington Street and Eastern Avenue. He died there November 26, having retired in 1991. His granddaughter, Amy Zrzegowski of Edgmere, recalled, "He sold oysters by the peck, clams, pickled herring and coils of Polish sausage." Having started as an ethnic Araber, in a later phase he delivered to Haussner's the strawberries that graced a favorite pie of that restaurant, also lamented.



Trash and Recycling Schedule

Trash should be placed outside in metal trash cans. After 6 AM on collection day, it is okay to use plastic bags. Trash collection days are usually Monday and Thursday.

Recycling material should go out by 7 AM on collection day. Recycle paper in paper bags, in a cardboard box, or tied with string; glass, metal, and plastic should be in blue plastic bags.

Saturday, January 10	Christmas trees
Monday, January 12	glass, metal, plastic
Friday, January 23	paper
Monday, January 26	glass, metal, plastic
Monday, February 9	glass, metal, plastic

The Fells Point Citizens on Patrol Newsletter is published monthly by FPCOP Inc. Your questions, input, and participation regarding patrols and this newsletter are welcome.

Please contact us by:

Phone 410.342.7354 leave message
New E-mail! fpcop@verizon.net
Write to P.O. Box 6137
Baltimore, MD 21231

FPCOP Newsletters are online @ www.fpcop.com



Trista Snyder

Trash floating in harbor where Thames Street meets the east side.

**Watershed Harbor Clean-Water Effort
—a Hope for Tourists and Residents**

Thanks to the persistence of a medical doctor who retired to the Canton waterfront and found it trashy, the Baltimore Harbor Watershed Association is up and battling against the styrofoam cups and plastic bottles that float in from storm sewers to afflict Baltimore’s premier tourist attraction.

A board representing academic, commercial and civic interests—and including at least one Fells Pointer—has formed and elected Dr. John Dowling, previously of Wilkes-Barre on the Susquehanna River and now of Anchorage Tower, as president. The association is dedicated “to protect and improve the environmental quality and natural beauty of the Baltimore harbor and its tributaries.”

What caught Dowling’s eye was the trash that flowed into the harbor after a heavy rain emptied corner street sewers into Harris Creek hard by the Anchorage. The creek is historic, marking the site of the shipyard where the Constellation was launched in 1797. In the formative months of the new association, it has worked with the city and interested firms to seek a test installation at Harris Creek of a netting system that has helped clean public waters elsewhere, notably in Cleveland. Another project in the works is on the Gwynns Falls near the Middle Branch basin.

The association hopes to work closely with already existing groups, such as those formed to protect the watersheds

Printing at Copycat paid by:



Printer's Ad

of the Jones and Gwynns Falls, the Waterfront Alliance, and the Baltimore Waterfront Promenade Partnership, in common pursuit of cleaner water. By consensus, the long-term goal is education of residents to keep trash off the waves. Flotsam-hunting skimmer boats have abated but hardly eliminated the flow. Surveys show the trash in the water to be a prime complaint of visitors and residents.

The board’s officers, besides Dowling, are Vice President Phil Lee of Moffatt & Nichol Engineers, Secretary Jennifer Zielinski of the Center for Watershed Protection, and Treasurer Jim Craig of the O’Donnell Street Business Association.



You on the Aisle-II

Fells Point’s theatrical offerings:

Black Snow is set in the Soviet ‘30s and a lot funnier than they were. January 16-February 15, Fridays-Saturdays at 8 and Sundays at 2 PM, at the Corner Theater in the middle of 200 block of S. Ann Street, \$12. 410.276.7837.

Royal Gambit by Hermann Gressieker looks askance at Henry VIII and his six wives. January 9-February 8. Fridays-Saturdays at 8 and Sundays at 2 PM, at the Vagabond, 806 South Broadway, \$12, 410.563.9135.



On the Trail—of the War of 1812

The National Park Service has come a long way toward putting Fells Point along a star-spangled trail to commemorate the War of 1812, or more specifically the Chesapeake Campaign of 1814. Designated trails to historic sites have become a popular way of accommodating history-minded tourists, with Boston and Philadelphia leading the way. The Park Service recommends five trail segments, including the British land assault on North Point and, within a cannon round of Fells Point, Hampstead Hill in Patterson Park.

Other segments include defense of Fort McHenry, the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers, and the march from Bladensburg to Washington. One of several proposed



Trista Snyder

Cannons atop Hampstead Hill.

themes, consolidation of the national flag, focuses on the Flag House just west of Fells Point. Another, the role of civilians and free blacks in the war, also finds expression here. Locally, the Preservation Society of Federal Hill and Fells Point and the Maryland Historical Society’s Maritime Museum on Thames Street are among those blazing the trail.

Neighborhood Association Meeting Schedules

- Fells Point Citizens on Patrol:** (Third Monday of every other month) January 19, 7 PM at Bertha’s 2nd Floor Studio.
- Fells Point Antique Dealers Association:** (meetings as needed) Call 410.675.4776 for more information.
- Fells Point Business Association:** (Third Tuesday of every month) 9 AM at Max’s on Broadway.
- Fells Point Community Organization:** (Second Monday of every month) 7 PM at the Fells Point Visitor Center, 410.276.5471.
- Fells Point Homeowners Association:** (First Wednesday of every month) 7:30 PM at Bertha’s 2nd Floor Studio.
- Fells Point Marketing Group:** (First Monday of every month) 6:30 PM at Kooper’s, 410.276.1410.
- Mid-Point Community Association:** (First Tuesday of every month) 7:30 PM at EBLO, 606 South Ann Street.
- Society for the Preservation of Fells Point and Federal Hill:** Call 410.675.6750 for more information.
- Eastern, Dallas, Bond Streets Association:** (Every other month, second Monday of the month) 7:30-8:30 PM at 1637 Eastern Avenue.