

Conversation with the Mayor December 3, 2007

Vicky Daly

We're Off and Running Again

I have decided that being a librarian is excellent training for many, many later tasks, including Village government. Why? Because you are always building on what has gone before (in the library, the collection); you are always in the middle of multiple projects; you have to be able to squeeze every possible cent out of a dollar, and you have to plan ahead. Check with any librarian you know, and you will find agreement.

This came to mind as I reviewed what has happened in the Village this year, what we are in the middle of, and what's envisioned. It has been a whale of a year - two Canal Corporation grants were awarded and are being worked on. The *Lois McClure* brought thousands of people to Palmyra for a weekend whose very mention brings smiles. The Burnham Heights project was finally completed to everyone's satisfaction. That project demonstrated efficient and productive intermunicipal cooperation, always a good thing. The Sexton Building got some much-needed attention both inside and out - window repair and replacement and adjustments to the heating system. The new sidewalk on Stafford Street was funded in part by a member item from Assemblyman Bob Oaks. Mr. Oaks was also responsible for the handsome pedestrian kiosks on Main Street. Both a Truck Traffic Study and an Air Quality Study were completed in the Route 21/ 31 corridor. A series of meetings were held to introduce the concept of preservation as an economic tool for revitalization and an ordinance passed to open that source of funding to property owners in Palmyra. Two canal related firsts happened this year as well. Cornhill Navigation, based in Rochester, included Palmyra in its *History Afloat!* program, a series of canal cruises featuring narrations about the history of the area. In November, Palmyra and Wayne County were represented in London at the World Travel Market through Canal New York.

Ongoing projects include the submission of a third grant application to move our Canalside projects - restrooms, boat launch and parking lot, more docking space - along. This one, should we be successful, will complement the earlier ones already obtained. Plans are in process for collaboration between the Village and the Palmyra Skate Park Committee to create a Skate Park at the top of the Village Park. Collaboration is also the key in a Shared Municipal Services Grant application submitted by the Village of Palmyra and the Towns of Palmyra, Macedon and Walworth. If awarded, the grant will enable the towns and village to purchase expensive equipment whose use they will share. There is no other way this equipment could be acquired.

Preservation also falls into the ongoing category. Watch for a series of meetings with knowledgeable people in that field. Education is the bedrock of any new initiative. Misunderstandings and fear of what might happen can be dispelled with an opportunity to read, listen and have questions answered. In another arena, the Pirates of the Erie Canal Committee is meeting to plan the Second Annual Pirates Weekend, August 9 -10, 2008. If

you, or your organization, want to be a part of Pirates Weekend, get in touch - the more the merrier. We meet again on Thursday, January 17th at 4:00 PM in the Village Hall.

What do we see for 2008? More people working together to make good things happen here, which in turn, will create more opportunities for more good people to do even more good things, and so on. It's an excellent trend. It demonstrates the old adage that success breeds even more success.

Stay up to date with all that's happening in the Village by reading the newspaper. Check out our website, www.palmyrany.com as well. Better yet, become part of the action to make Palmyra an even better place to live, to work, and to prosper.

Planning and Zoning Board slots are open and waiting. Call 597-4849 for information.

Finally, congratulations to Cindy and Bob Surline on their two, not one, but two, new websites www.brickhouseantiques.com and www.brickhouserugcenter.com, which showcases their new line of oriental carpets. You will be pleased.