

Your Opinions

The Gazette welcomes Letters to the Editor. Readers are invited to contribute brief observations, signed and typed if possible. We reserve the right to edit for libel, exclude poetry and limit authors to one letter monthly to be fair.

Artist remembers Saturday nights in 20s' Adelphi

Editor, the Gazette:
I have noted the coverage of the Adelphi Community Band's 100th anniversary in the Gazette with more than a casual interest.

My grandparents having retired from farming in near-by Salt Creek Township, Pickaway County, moved to Adelphi in the late 1920's. As a grandson, I spent all my summers there as a child and after my father's death in 1957, lived with them for two years.

All this time the Adelphi Band, under the direction of Frank Hickman of Lancaster, was at its peak. During the summer months a bandstand constructed of rough lumber was erected on the main street. A string of bare bulbs circled the four posts providing the lighting. On Saturday nights a concert was given: a social event in itself or sometimes coupled with an ice cream social on the church lawn across the street.

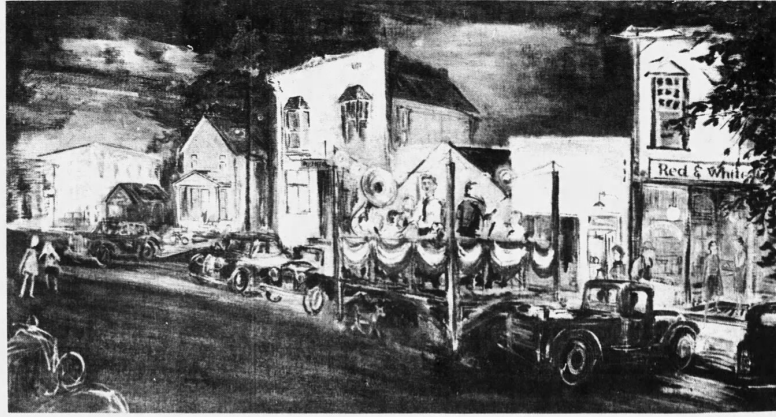
Family cars were parked, angle in, on the street and while children played or paraded, the elders listened to the band seated in the Essexes, Chevrolets, Model T's and Terraplanes. Along with Sousa marches, there was always a vocal solo. As I recall the standard was one of the Hinton men singing, "Mexicali Rose."

Farm families also came to town Saturday nights to shop at the Red and White store, get the boys haircuts and to stop by the cars to socialize.

The enclosed black and white glossy (reproduced elsewhere on this page) is a photo of a painting about these Saturday nights in Adelphi that I painted about 10 years ago. It is entitled "A Bygone Saturday Night," and is painted in acrylics. The dimensions are 18" x 26". Its somber background is in a range of blues while the bandstand is multicolored, with bright yellows predominating.

A graduate of OSU, I have spent my adult life in Columbus, most of it as an artist for The Columbus Dispatch. While I have built my life (a wife, Betty, and four sons) in Columbus, much of my heart and memories are in Adelphi.

Bob Hoover
193 Charleston Ave., Columbus



Bob Hoover's painting, "A Bygone Saturday Night," reflects old Adelphi

Don't blame others

Editor, the Gazette:
I have read the several letters written the editor and decided to exercise my freedom of the press and speech and voice my opinion because the letters have disgusted me about our future citizens of tomorrow. They are sentenced before trial.

Too quick are the majority to judge the young and I would like to defend those who have had the buck passed to them on child crime such as judges, schools, parents, churches, etc.

If just once the condemning people would stop and say "What have I done for a child today?" They would find much more happiness in sending a child to a rewarding life than to have it on their consciences they have condemned that child unjustly.

First, the boys who broke the windows are getting their punishment as one is a neighbor boy, Judge Radcliffe is a very educated man in his profession and I'm sure his judgement in dealing with the juveniles is exercised with

the highest of capacity.
Don't blame the judge.

Only the parent knows how rewarding it is to do the utmost to make a fulfilling life for their children. The working parents have the opportunity to give their children a little bit more in life; not easier. Only the children of working parents know what it is to come home from school or to be put to bed without them. Children in each category still have chores to do at home in which to make money for the movie, a dance, the doughnut shop or sweet shop. The parents like to be able to stand up when one child's name is called not hide in a corner.

Don't blame the parents.

In my opinion, the good thing about lifting the curfew is that more parents will become involved and see what their children are doing and where they are at when bedtime arrives. I think our police (who are mostly parents) can be highly praised when it has come to dealing with the children after curfew. They have been strict but can deal with good decisions to the child out after curfew.

Don't blame the police.

The letters mentioned children didn't want to work nowadays only for high wages. Suppose it was an adult? Have you noticed the price of a movie, drive-in, a banana split or a pizza? If five boys walked down Paint Street today like Billy Ireland and his four friends they wouldn't go down in history, only up to see the Judge.

We have a very good organization called "Big Brother-Big Sister" located at Robert Gay Community Center which is in dire need of help. Have you done your share?

Let's make every day, week, year for the child. Think before you pass the buck and condemn and make sure you have carried your share of the load. Remember, your life tomorrow depends on their life today.

Mrs. Naomi A. Shaffer
152 Park St., Chillicothe

Public building fee

Editor, the Gazette:
With society calling for more use of public buildings that stand idle on weekends, it seems rather ironic that

Ohio University would find it necessary to establish a rental fee of \$300 for use of Stevenson Center Lounge. No, this fee is not just for a full day. If the building is used for an hour, you must still pay \$300. ("Take it or leave it," says the manager.)

I have no qualm with paying a fee, but \$300 seems a little high to me. If the intent of the fee is to discourage people from using the building, why not set a limit on the number of times per year a person or a profit organization can use the building. There is no charge for non-profit organizations.

The manager has arbitrarily decided which organizations are considered non-profit. The Boy Scouts organization is "O.K.," but not the NAACP. Both groups are non-profit according to I.R.S.

I hope the university will take a look at their new policy and try to come up with a more equitable fee. Ohio University has been good for the community and the community has been good to Ohio University.

Let's keep it that way.

Jean Kerney
Fifth Ward Councilman

Scioto Heritage

These are edited excerpts from the files of the Chillicothe Gazette and its several antecedents, including the 180-year-old Scioto Gazette.

190 YEARS AGO

THE URBANA "Courant" reported a tornado which cut a swath 100 yards wide in a minute, destroying 31 buildings at an estimated cost of \$15-\$20,000.

125 YEARS AGO

THE CITY fire alarm sounded because two barrels of resin (sic) caught fire near Western School. Some workmen were preparing pitch for roofing and the resin caught fire accidentally.

100 YEARS AGO

THE MARIETTA and Cincinnati (Baltimore and Ohio), Dayton and Southeastern, Scioto Valley (Nortfolk and Western) and all railroads centering in Columbus offered reduced rates to the Grand Lodge IOOF meeting in Chillicothe in May. Full fare was charged to Chillicothe and a penny a mile on the return.

50 YEARS AGO

THE HOME Owned House That

Service Built" was the winning entry in an Oil and Battery Service Co. slogan contest jointly won by Alvin Zarcher, former Gazette sports editor, and Abe Kerney. Both submitted the same slogan.

25 YEARS AGO

VOLUNTEERS WERE ready to assist the city and county health departments in administering the Salk polio vaccine to first and second grade pupils if use of the vaccine was approved by researchers.

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