

12-7-1990

NEWS AND NOTES 1990, DECEMBER 7

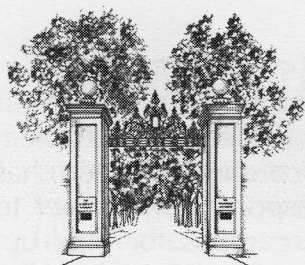
The Rockefeller University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.rockefeller.edu/news_and_notes_1990

Recommended Citation

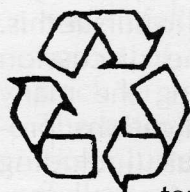
The Rockefeller University, "NEWS AND NOTES 1990, DECEMBER 7" (1990). *News and Notes 1990*. Book 19.
http://digitalcommons.rockefeller.edu/news_and_notes_1990/19

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the The Rockefeller University News and Notes at Digital Commons @ RU. It has been accepted for inclusion in News and Notes 1990 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ RU. For more information, please contact mcsweej@mail.rockefeller.edu.



News & Notes

Recycling meeting looks to future



Over a dozen people, representing the administration, students and staff, attended Wednesday's "town meeting" on the university's recycling program. The meeting adopted a question and answer format in which the processes of recycling, as well as the problems, strengths and future of the present system, were discussed.

Early in the meeting, Lab Safety Director Ed Gershey passed around photocopies of a document entitled "Preparation of Waste for Disposal," which

discussed processes for dealing with biological, radioactive and chemical wastes. Although the bulk of the meeting focused on the more common task of recycling paper products, this document provided an indication of the complexity of recycling in a biomedical institution such as Rockefeller.

Of course, simple paper recycling harbors difficulties of its own. One of the university's main problems in this area, according to Tom Mineo, Supervisor of Custodial Services, is the lack of consistency on the part of carters contracted by the university to pick up our recyclable

white paper. "People complain that sometimes the bins are overflowing," Mineo said, "but if the carter doesn't pick up the paper we've already collected, we have no place to put new collections." He also pointed out that the City of New York is temporarily not picking up newspapers collected at Rockefeller sites.

Steve Baeck, Managing Editor at The Rockefeller University Press, commented that the Press is forced to throw away at least 15,000 sheets of white paper monthly because paper is not

☛ See **Recycling** on next page

Intruders captured by new recruit

Three trespassers were captured in the new lab building on Thursday, November 29, through the vigilance and quick thinking of Security Guard Carmelo Ortiz. Ortiz has been on the Rockefeller security force less than half a year.

At around 1:00 a.m. Ortiz was stationed within the shell of the building under construction. This is a new post for Rockefeller security, prompted by thefts at the site. In the darkness, Ortiz saw two figures wandering around the shanties where tools and equipment are housed nightly. Quickly, he whispered "10-13" into his walkie-talkie—a code that told other guards Ortiz needed help.

At the same time, the intruders noticed Ortiz. Seeing he was outnumbered and not knowing if the men were armed, Ortiz shrewdly offered not to report the two if they would follow him off the premises. They agreed, and the three men began walking down to the construction entrance on the Tower Building plaza.


☛ See **Intruder** on next page



Carmelo Ortiz

Rob Brown

Campus prepares for holidays

 Yes, Virginia there really are people responsible for giving the university campus that holiday look! Kate Cameron and Barbara Ashfield of the Furnishing and Interiors Department are in charge of getting and putting up the trees that stand in front of Founder's Hall, the wreaths for the hospital, the poinsettias for the public rooms and the new Lab Tree in the Tower Building. All this gets done with the help of handyman Leonard Mehciel.


The Founder's Hall trees, which are shipped from Canada, have already arrived and are being lit at 4:00 today. The wreaths and poinsettias will arrive next week.

The Lab Tree, the university's newest holiday entry, was invented out of necessity. Mrs. Cameron decided to use scien-



The university's Lab Tree

tific instruments because ordinary ornaments were too expensive. The instruments, donated by various labs, were rolled in glitter and tied with red ribbons. "We hope it becomes a tradition," Ms. Ashfield commented. The Lab Tree is on display in the north lounge of the Tower Building, 17th floor.

 —by Patricia Sadiq

Intruder (continued from page 1)

Rockefeller Lieutenant Frank O'Brien was the supervisor on duty when the call came in from Ortiz. Quickly, he contacted the New York City Police Department, then raced to the plaza with Sergeant Mowbray Clarke and Guards Linton Hunter and Frank Hoyte. There the group surprised the duo and succeeded in holding them until the police arrived.

However, the night was not over. When Ortiz returned to his post a little later, he heard another man on the esplanade at the foot of the scaffolding calling to his associates to "hurry up." Ortiz radioed the Security Office, and Clarke and two police officers hurried over the footbridge to apprehend the third individual.

Upon questioning, the three men offered no explanation for why they were on the construction site. The police charged them with attempted burglary.

Meanwhile, Ortiz has been praised for his cool handling of the affair. Said Joe Nekola, Director of Security, "It's great to know our new recruits are living up to the standards of our experienced members." →→

Recycling (continued from page 1)

gathered for recycling from their 70th Street offices. The problem so far, according to Mineo, has been transporting the paper to the main campus for pick up. Baeck suggested omitting that step altogether and getting the carter to make periodic stops at 70th Street. Both Mineo and Director of Plant Operations Jim Metalios promised to pursue this.

Eventually, the discussion turned to recycling the many memos and publications produced on campus (including *News and Notes*), and all concurred that members of the campus community must be encouraged to keep waste to a minimum. Perhaps Graduate Fellow Andrew Millar summed up the situation best when he commented, "It would be far better if we simply used less."

Among the other items discussed:

- the general availability—and inavailability—of items made of recycled products for sale in the university stockroom,
- the need for individuals to find suppliers and distributors of products that use recyclable materials in their packaging, and
- the need for better coordination between departments, such as Custodial and Housing, responsible for gathering recyclables from different areas.

Among the conclusions reached at the meeting were that those in charge of the recycling program would attempt to add more recycling bins at various locations and encourage outside carters to gather the waste paper on a regular schedule. A future goal is the addition of provisions in the Rockefeller program for recycling aluminum, plastics and other materials. →→

The Winterblooming Tree

The Witch Hazel has a calendar all its own. This dwarf tree sweeps up, with blossoms like witches' brooms, the rear of the annual parade of flowers. Its curious autumn behavior produces flowers, exploding fruits and falling leaves.

Our campus Witch Hazel, now in full bloom, stands at the corner of the lower walk and brick drive near the flagpole. The branches sport tiny thread-like clusters of harvest gold flowers. As winter bears down, these tousled hanks of yellow petals shrivel, but the blooms will stay on until spring.

Peyton Rous, Rockefeller Professor who died at 90 in 1970, admired the highly wrought and lavishly decorated flowers of late autumn. As a budding naturalist at 20, he compared them to those people who never grow old with the years. "Our autumnal everlasting," he wrote in a 1900 *Baltimore Sun* column, "have a quiet gray that seems akin to the silver of an old man's hair, and the witchhazel's beauty is like the faded glimmer of his smile."

Other common names include Winterbloom and Snapping Hazel. When cold weather gives the signal, the ripe, brown seed capsules pop open and hurl seeds as far as twenty feet. The old year's seeds depart as the new year's flowers arrive.

American legends add to the Witch Hazel's mysteries. The forked branches have long been used for dowsing or "witching"—the divining rods used to detect underground water. An extract of the branches is still sold as a rubbing lotion, but its question-

able medicinal value may reside in the aromatic alcohol that evokes clean autumn air and tingles the skin.

These flowers of winter belong to the landscape that American poet Emily Dickinson described in 1869 as a place where "November hung his Granite Hat upon a nail of Plush."

—by Carol Moberg

Katagiri will present thesis

Graduate Fellow Fumiaki Katagiri will present his thesis at 3:45 on Monday, December 10, in Caspary Auditorium. The title of the thesis is "Structure and Function Analysis of a Plant Transcription Activator." A tea will precede the presentation at 3:15. →→

News from Computing Services

Introducing Rockyj

A new server, *rockyj*, is available to anyone with a regular Computing Services account. *Rockyj*, a Sun Sparc running Sun OS 4.1, is twice as fast as *rockyb* at the same cost per minute of cpu time.

Computing Services is presently moving the licenses for all the statistical packages to *rockyj*. So far, BMDP, SAS and UNIXSTAT have been moved; other packages will follow. The general purpose commands are available there as well. You can use this machine for perusing, editing and printing your files. The e-mail, phonebook, library and help information systems all run on *rockyj* also.

Macintosh mail notification

Computing Services now offers a free notification program to anyone using the MacMH mail program to send and receive electronic mail. The *ChainMail* program uses an apple share volume to check every three minutes for new mail; arrival of new mail is indicated by a tone and a flashing envelope icon over the apple icon. Computing Services will install *ChainMail* or provide a copy and instructions on installation.

E-mail names go on-line

Computing Services has enhanced the on-line telephone book to include e-mail names. The commands for searching the telephone book remain the same as before, but now when a person has an e-mail name it is displayed as well. All fields other than e-mail name are in a database under the exclusive control of the Telecommunications Department. The e-mail database is maintained by Computing Services. Every night the two databases are "joined" to create the database used by the *alpha* and *sound* commands.

For Macintosh users, Computing Services has created a hypercard stack with the same function as the UNIX database. This stack is updated weekly and is available for copying to disk using the Macintosh in the Users' Room, Smith Hall room B7. →→

Saturday night is movie night

Since 1987, Graduate Fellow Mark Benedyk ("the Video Kingpin") has been bringing video double features to the Faculty and Students' Club on Saturday nights. This program was started by Randy Furlong in the early 1980s, continued by Jennifer Cordes, and is currently organized by Benedyk and Lynn Lapierre. Club bartenders handle the showing of the videos and provide refreshments for those who have club tabs.

The films are selected according to a weekly theme and are "usually highly unusual and extremely entertaining," according to Benedyk. Recent themes have included American Education in Crisis Night (*Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*), Communists Under the Bed Night (*Red Dawn*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*), They Walk Among Us Night (*The Hidden*, *They Live*) and Film Noir Night (*Chinatown*, *Out of the Past*). Upcoming features will include *Tras la Cristal*, a Chilean film in Spanish with English subtitles, and a Japanese film, *Makioka Sisters*. The Video Kingpin hopes to show more Spanish and Latin American films in the future and promises "a little film tour of South America in a while."

Videos can be seen every Saturday night except when the club is closed. They begin at 7:00 or 7:30 p.m. and end at closing time, 11:00 p.m. Announcements of upcoming programs are posted around campus, and everyone is welcome to attend.

—by Leslie VossHall



Mark Benedyk

Leslie VossHall

Announcements

RU Holiday Dance is tonight

The university's Holiday Dinner-Dance will be held tonight from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on the 17th floor of the Tower Building. If you still have not bought your ticket (\$25 each), do so today because they will not be sold at the door. Tickets are available from the Mail Room and the Purchasing Department throughout the day.

Macintosh group meets Wednesday

The Rockefeller University Macintosh Users' Group (RockMUG) will hold its December meeting on Wednesday, December 12, from noon to 1:00 in Caspary 1B. This month's topic is "An introduction to Macintosh troubleshooting." As always, the meeting will include a general Mac question and answer session. Bring your lunch to the meeting; soft drinks will be provided. New members are welcome.

Women's tea is December 10

The Rockefeller University Women's Association invites all women of the Rockefeller community for coffee, tea and conversation on Monday, December 10, from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m., in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall, rooms 1A and 1B. Faculty, staff, students and wives are welcome.

Come to the Holiday Festival!

The university's annual Holiday Festival will be held Thursday afternoon from 3:00 to 5:00 in the Tower Building. Everyone is invited.

Monday's Lunchtime Film is *Cathedral*

Spectacular location sequences and high-quality animation make *Cathedral* a fascinating story of the construction of France's most famous and awe-inspiring churches. The film will show on Monday, December 10, at 12:05 and 1:05 in Caspary Auditorium. Bring your lunch!

Today's noon recital: cello, piano duo

Cellist Käthe Jarke and pianist Marija Stroke will perform works of Corelli, Schumann, Debussy and Beethoven at today's Tri-Institutional Noon Recital at Sloan House, 1233 York Ave.



NewsNotes is published on Fridays throughout the academic year by the Public Affairs Office of Rockefeller University. Suggestions for articles are welcome and may be sent to Box 68, or call 570-8967. Articles may also be submitted via electronic mail to **newsnotes**. The deadline for each Friday's issue is the preceding Monday at 5:00 p.m. The Rockefeller University is an equal opportunity employer and has an affirmative action program to increase the employment of women and members of protected groups at all job levels. Editor: Robert Brown. Designer: Patricia Sadiq.