

Conversation with the Mayor October 2, 2006

Vicky Daly

Working Together At Home and Away

In late September I represented Palmyra at the NYS Canal Conference in Troy. This event, sponsored by the Canal Society of New York, the NYS Canal Corporation, and the Erie Canalways Heritage Corridor Commission, was one of the best, most productive conferences I have ever attended. Being a retired teacher, I have been to more than my share of conferences.

Why was it so good? Excellent planning and great speakers were certainly a part of it, but it was the networking that made it so. I got questions answered and provided answers as well. We learned that Palmyra's information kiosks have been discussed in the Rochester City Parks office and provided them with the name of the local fabricator. Our treatment of the wetlands was another question asked. We cannot build on the canal banks because of the wetlands, so we make them educational with interpretive signage. The collaboration that happens in Palmyra was the topic of a presentation, not given by me, on the Aldrich Change Bridge project. (Although the bridge is geographically in the Town of Macedon, the project was undertaken with the Village as lead agency.) Another presentation dealt with our projected expansion of docking area and addition of amenities to the Port of Palmyra. The dual purpose of enhanced quality of life for local residents and the shot in the arm the project will provide for local businesses was the theme. As I

write this, we have not learned if we are successful in that application. Things move slowly.

So, I came home feeling good about what we, a very large we, have accomplished so far, and realizing what can still be done. Canal people -NYS agencies, elected officials, business owners, enthusiasts - are generous, congenial folks who are all working for the same goals. They want a better life for all those people who live and work in the Canal Corridor. That's 80% of the population of the state north of New York City. And they are willing to work together and to help each other reach those goals. I am very glad Palmyra is part of that contingent. It is a good place to be.

Another aspect of life in Palmyra and the region is the willingness of people to help. If you could spare a few hours each month to fill a need for your fellow residents of Wayne County, call the Home Meal Service, "Meals on Wheels" more familiarly, at 946-5622 to see what is involved and how you can help. What are the needed qualifications? You have to be 18 or older, have a car and a valid driver's license, and be able to volunteer between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM on weekdays, as little as twice a month. Call and see if you can help. It's a good thing to do. I know because we do it.

Do you recall last fall's discount cards for Palmyra and Macedon merchants? They are back. Once again the Pal-Mac Middle School PTO is making them available. They are a really good deal because 1) They support local merchants (the eleventh commandment); 2) You can use them every single day until November 2007; 3) The money that is

raised by the PTO helps projects for our kids in the Middle School, and
4) They only cost \$10.00! Pick up several at the Middle School Office,
Gallery of Styles, Yellow Mills Restaurant, and the Palmyra Village Hall.
They make wonderful stocking stuffers and Christmas is not that far off.