

An evening to remember

Harvard Square Business Association marks 75th anniversary

By David Wiegand
Managing editor

It was billed as "An Evening to Remember" and, indeed, there were more than a few memories shared between members of the Harvard Square Business Association on Tuesday night.

At the same time, as the association celebrated 75 years of representing the Harvard Square business community, its members looked to the future — a future which, judging by the celebratory spirit of the gala dinner at the Sheraton Commander, looks bright with prosperity.

Following the association's annual business meeting, Charles Sullivan, executive director of the Cambridge Historical Association, narrated a slide show on developments in the square; the old photographs may have shown that Harvard Square has come along way, baby, but Sullivan drew more than a few chuckles when he noted that it only took about two years to build an entire subway system in the early part of this century, as opposed to the time it took to complete the Red Line extension more recently. There was also laughter when Sullivan noted that parking has been a problem in the square even before horses were retired as primary modes of transportation.

This being an election year, there were a few politicians on hand doing business. State Sen. George

Bachrach was looking natty in his dark blue suit and gleaming white shirt; but after brief remarks to the membership, he changed his outfit to camp out in Harvard Yard with the Shusteytown residents protesting Harvard University's refusal to divest itself of holdings in firms doing business in South Africa. In a single evening, Bachrach, seeking the Eighth Congressional seat, covered the essence of what most have always recognized as the two Harvard Squares.

Indeed, when Sullivan's slide projector clicked to display a shot of protesting students cramming the square in the late 1960s, one Radcliffe graduate — dressed in a stylish suit appropriate for her job as a high-powered marketing director — was heard to say, "I was there."

Following the slide presentation, the guests, many of whom sported white painter's caps with the slogan "I (red heart) Harvard Square," retired to the George Washington Ballroom for a dinner of poached salmon.

Master of ceremonies Sheldon Cohen, president of the association and owner of Out of Town News, peered over his ever-present half-frames as Paul Revere bowls and citations from the Massachusetts House of Representatives were presented to a few of the long-time business leaders in the square. In some cases, like that of Bob Slate and Edwin R. Sage, Harvard Square has been a family home, in a way, as

sons continue the business traditions founded by their fathers.

Honored by the association, in addition to Slate and Sage, were Dwight Andrews, Richard Dow, Waldo Powell, Ben Olken, Edwin R. Sage and Ormand Humphreys.

The legislative citations, signed by House Speaker George Kevelian, were authored and delivered to the dinner by House Majority Leader Charles Flaherty Jr.

Among the current and would-be political officeholders on hand for the occasion were District Attorney Scott Harshbarger of Cambridge, Mayor Walter Sullivan, Middlesex Clerk of Courts Edward Sullivan, City Councilors Stella Russell and Alice Wolf, Middlesex-Suffolk State Senate hopeful Warren Tolman of Watertown.

And, of course, there were more than a few city officials on hand to pay tribute to the important role which Harvard Square businesses play in the economy and vitality of the city. City Manager Robert Healy said that in his remarks to the group. Also on hand were Acting City Clerk Joe Connarton, Library Director Joseph Sakey and Community Development Director Michael Roseberg.

The executive director of the Cambridge Arts Council, Annabelle Hebert, and the deputy director, Roy-Alan Hansen, were also there, sporting bright green buttons advertising the upcoming tenth an-

iversary edition of the Cambridge River Festival. The buttons, which will be on sale soon, are electrified and feature a row of flashing green lights. Sheldon Cohen also wore a button, which twinkled merrily as he gave out the awards for the night.

And bringing greetings from her husband, as well as taking the opportunity to emphasize one of her pet projects — restoration of Winthrop Square Park — was Kitty Dukakis, wife of the governor.

Rounding out the evening was a floor show featuring the Cambridge Ring and Latin jazz ensemble. Jimmy Smith was the emcee with the school's music director and assistant music director, Anthony Apicella and Jean TePaske, on piano and clarinet.

The planning committee for the celebration included Cohen, William P. Dole, Justin Slate, Ed Ver Planck, Janet Prensley, Joseph Sakey, Charles Sage, Chuck Tietli, Jeff McKenzie, Walter Guleserian, Jim Smith, Frank Kramer, Tony Ferranti, Paul Corcoran, Charles Sullivan, Jacqueline O'Neill, Sally Alcorn, Donald O. Morse, Haig Agababian, Robert Banker, Todd Beatty, Sandy Cahay, Louis Di Giovanni, James Dwinell III, Richard Diamond, Louis Karle, Mary Killian, Mark Murphy, J. D. Pollock and Carol Spasznik.

It was "A Night to Remember" for at least the next 75 years of the Harvard Square Business Association.



ON HAND for the Harvard Square Business Association gala Tuesday were, from left, Cambridge Arts Council Deputy Director Roy-Alan Hansen, Executive Director Annabelle Hebert, Dottie Guindan and Maureen McVey of the Boston Herald, and standing from the left, James H. Smith and Jeff Lindenthal. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



EDWIN R. SAGE, left, and Waldo Powell were honored by the association for their long-time business leadership. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



THE HARVARD COOP, one of the oldest businesses in Cambridge, was represented by David Maher and Haig Agababian. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



CITY COUNCILOR Sheila Russell, right, found familiar faces among, from the left, Acting City Clerk Joseph Connarton, former Cambridge Chronicle Editor Elio Spalding, and Robert Remer, a former Chronicle staffer and, more recently retired as assistant director of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



FOR MORE THAN 30 years, these three business leaders have met in Harvard Square for lunch. Standing are Ormand Humphreys, left, and Ben Olken. Seated is Bob Slate. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



FROM ONE OF the newest contributions to the economy of Harvard Square were representatives of Charles Square. From the left are Hilaire and Jeff McKenzie, Carol Foley and Dan Fishbein. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



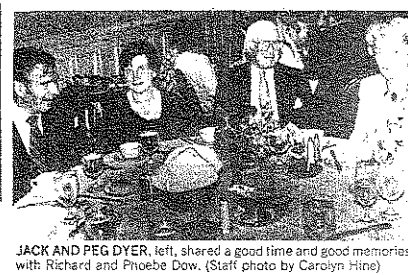
THE ASSOCIATION'S honor to Dwight Andrews was presented by Helen Moulton. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



OFFICIAL—Mayor Walter Sullivan, right, presents official city congratulations to Harvard Square Business Association President Sheldon Cohen and Association Director Sally Alcorn. (Photo by Robert Ebbes)



DOLE PUBLISHING, parent company of the Cambridge Chronicle, was well-represented at the association dinner. Standing from the left are Vicki Morse and Dole General Manager Donald O. Morse along with advertising representative Peg Morsland. Seated from the left are Mary R. Littlefield of Cambridge, Chronicle Editor David Wiegand, Richard and Leslie Saltzberg of the Charles River Publishing, and Chronicle Publisher William P. Dole and his wife, Johnnie. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



JACK AND PEG DYER, left, shared a good time and good memories with Richard and Phoebe Dow. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)



HARVARD UNIVERSITY'S Jacqueline O'Neill, left, and Barbara Sullivan, executive vice president of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, were table-mates at the association dinner. (Staff photo by Carolyn Hine)