

**The BALLAD of FIDO ZOBRIST
(A Local Celebrity of Geneva NY)**

In 1982 I played a gig in this nice town with Joanie Madden and Jerry O'Sullivan. Our hosts took us for a tour of the town, and somewhere out by the lake we came across the statue of a dog. It was an unusual sight to say the least, so much so that I thought it deserved to be commemorated in a song. Needless to say, Fido's exploits as recounted here are wholly fictional (or are they ...?).

Incredibly, a Google search turn up an [article from the archives of the New York Times](#)... and I'm sure the town historian can expand on this.

Note: to make any sense at all of the rhyme scheme of this little ditty, Zobrist has to be pronounced with the accent on the second syllable. I'm not sure if that's the usual way of pronouncing it (there's a baseball player who pronounces it the other way) but you'll have to humor me. Poetic license and all that.

**COME KIND-HEARTED PEOPLE, ADD YOUR NAMES TO THE LIST
OF THOSE WHO WOULD HONOR BOLD FIDO ZOBRIST
A CANINE DESERVING OF FAME AND RENOWN
BUT REMEMBERED BY FEW IN GENEVA'S FAIR TOWN**

**FAR OUT BY THE LAKE STANDS A GREY MARBLE STONE
OF FIDO HIMSELF, AND HIS FAVORITE BONE
SO NOBLE HIS FEATURES, DETERMINED HIS FACE:
THE PRIDE AND THE FLOWER OF THE WHOLE DOGGIE RACE**

**THERE'S A STORY THAT'S TOLD - I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S TRUE -
OF FIDO'S HEROICS BACK IN NINETEEN-OH-TWO
A BOAT SPRUNG A LEAK ON THE LAKE COLD AND BLACK
FIDO RESCUED THE SAILORS AND TOWED THE BOAT BACK**

**AND THAT WILD LOCOMOTIVE - RUNAWAY, IT WAS CALLED
GATHERED SPEED TOWARDS THE CROSSING
WHERE A SCHOOLBUS HAD STALLED
FIDO GOT THE BUS CLEAR WITH A PUSH FROM HIS PAWS
THEN STOPPED THE WILD ENGINE WITH HIS STRONG DOGGY JAWS**

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**NOW WIDOWS AND ORPHANS WERE HIS OWN SPECIAL CARE
NO LANDLORD DARED THREATEN IF FIDO WERE THERE
IN POLITICS TOO FIDO'S INTEREST WAS KEEN:
HE RAN FOR STATE SENATE IN NINETEEN-THIRTEEN**

**ON THE EDGE OF THE TOWN ON THE OLD EAST LAKE ROAD
NOT FAR FROM HIS FAMILY'S HUMBLE ABODE
STANDS ALL THAT REMAINS OF THIS CANINE SO BRAVE
SAY A PRAYER AS YOU PASS BY HIS POOR LONELY GRAVE**

**AND ALL YOU GENEVANS - RAISE A GLASS IN YOUR FIST
TO DRINK TO THE MEMORY OF FIDO ZOBRIST
A BEST FRIEND TO MAN FROM HIS SNOOT TO HIS TALL
AND A HERO WHOSE COURAGE WAS NE'ER KNOWN TO FAIL!**

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