



Built 1723

## STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

May 1964

Next Meeting, Friday, May 22  
Christ Church Hall



Built 1723

Program: Our Program Chairman, Mrs. Leo Miller has a most unusual program in store for us. Mr. Allan I. Ludwig, Bollingen Fellow, Yale University, will discuss in a lecture illustrated with slides, Gravestone sculpture of Early New England, long a subject of interest to historians and artists. Mr. Ludwig is very interested in the Colonial Arts Foundation which is trying to alert people about the danger our stone carving faces both from the forces of nature and vandals. The group believes that many of these monuments should be moved indoors before it is too late to save them. They are working with many historical societies to try to house many of the better stones.

### BY-LAWS

At this meeting we will take final action on the changes to the By-Laws approved at our last meeting.

### MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Lane and her Membership Committee has asked the members to bring prospective member guests to this meeting. Let's make our visitors feel at home with us and help create an interest to join with us. New members add to the life of the Society and help to supply more active workers.

### HOUSE COMMITTEE

The House Committee has repainted and rehung the sign in front of Judson House that was blown down during last winter's storms. They have also made improvements to the electrical wiring and taken care of other recommendations made by the fire department inspector.

### GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The Grounds Committee, under Mr. Fowler, has had the sill protection area walls built on the east side of the house; also, installed ground lighting along that area so we can see to walk to the museum after dark. They have also loamed and seeded the damaged lawn area. The diner people have erected a fence on the lower end of our property and the board felt that a similar fence along the east side of our property would be advisable. The Grounds Committee is getting estimates as to the cost for us.

### VISITORS

Mrs. Arbogast and her Hostess Committee have been kept real busy with the special Sunday opening in response to a Saturday story on our Judson House and Museum which appeared in the New Haven Register, plus approximately 140 visitors so far this month.

We now have Mrs. J. Wendell Holmes aiding Mr. Booth in guiding the visitors through the house and museum.

### BROCHURE

Mr. Lewis Knapp working with Mrs. Fowler and the Research Committee have developed and had printed a new brochure on Judson House and Museum together with a short history of Stratford. How they could ever gather and pack so much information and knowledge into such a small space is miraculous! They are to be complimented on a job well done. Properly distributed it should increase our number of visitors tremendously. We plan to have copies to show at our next meeting.



### ACQUISITIONS

Mrs. Lovell and her Acquisitions Committee promises to have some new and beautiful acquisitions to show us at the meeting. She also reports that they have been very busy separating and cataloging all the fabrics and are now tackling the materials in the attic, the biggest job being the putting in order of pictures, paintings and frames. Her report this month should be most interesting.

### FLEA MARKET

It is time again to start thinking seriously about our annual Flea Market in August, and what part you can take to help make it again the wonderful success it has been in the past. Mrs. Leo Miller has again graciously agreed to head the committee, but she will need a lot of help from all of us -- and we all know that this is our Society's main source of income.

### STATE MEETING, MAY 23

St. Peter's Episcopal Church and Parish House, Route 10 and 70 Main Street, Cheshire, The Cheshire Historical Society, Host.

The morning session will be a research seminar on (a) how to do research on Connecticut History by Dr. Albert E. VanDusen, (b) how to find your ancestors by Mrs. Edith Grant, (c) how to find your way through land records by Paul Kaye. Bring your lunch; dessert and coffee will be served by the host society.

As this is the annual meeting, the afternoon session will be devoted to reports of committees, election of officers and presentation of awards.

As a member of our Society, you are also a member of the State group and welcome to attend. If you plan to do so, call Mrs. Einar Larson, 378-3216 - our Society Delegate, for additional information.

### PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP

Do you know you can become a Permanent Member of our Society on payment of \$100.00 or more, and be excused from paying annual dues? These funds cannot be spent by the Society but must be invested and the Society benefits by the earnings forever after!

Stanley E. Johnson  
President



STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

May 14, 1964

Subject: "BRING A FRIEND NIGHT"

Dear Member:

At the last Executive Board meeting of your society it was decided to call the May 22 meeting - "Bring A Friend Night". This meeting is to be held as usual at the Christ Church Hall and we are planning a very interesting talk by Mr. Allan Ludwig of Hamden, Connecticut, on the topic of "Gravestone Sculpture". I am sure that you and your guests will find this most interesting.

It is imperative that we continue to bring new life into the society in order that we may replace members who are forced to resign for one reason or another as well as to continue to grow, not only in size, but to expand our service to the community through accumulating a collection of historical data and artifacts relative to our town. It is important therefore that you endeavor to enlist the interest of a guest who would make a good potential applicant to our expanding membership. We sincerely request that you give this matter your consideration and help the membership committee in its 1964 membership drive.

Our thanks for your cooperation and assistance.

Best personal regards,

Mrs. Clark P. Lane, Jr.  
Chairman, Membership  
Committee