



STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Built 1723

MAY 1966

Built 1723

Next Meeting - Friday, May 20, 1966

Christ Church Hall 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Lowell Hess, prominent illustrator of Southport will speak on "Building Techniques of the Seventeenth Century Homes." He will construct, in the course of his lecture, a model central chimney house, the kind that gave rise to the term "house raising". This promises to be an interesting evening.

Note the date, May 20th - earlier than usual in the month - and bring a friend. Refreshments will be served. (Maybe even Historical Society Punch)

FOG HORNS BE FOGGED

Somewhere in the dense fog of Coast Guard Officialdom authority to turn the Stratford Lighthouse Horns over to the Stratford Historical Society has ran ashore. Word came down from the 3rd District Public Information Officer that some day the Coast Guard might get funds to establish a museum in New York State and that a committee was looking around to see what might be placed in it - and until such time, etc.

Upon instruction from the Society's Official Board your President has written to Senators Dodd and Ribbicoff seeking their help to prevent the horns from leaving the State and to make them available, without delay, to the Stratford Historical Society for safe keeping. Promises have been received from each to attempt to find a solution. In the meantime we wait on the fog bound shore at a time when the price of scrap copper is going up and when a command may go out to all Light House Keepers to clear the decks of all unused gear.

CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES - Spring Meeting this Saturday, Suffield Historical Society - Second Baptist Church, Main Street, Suffield, Saturday, May 14, 1966.

10:00 - 2:30 - Bring Box Lunch

The Honorable Howard W. Alcorn, Supreme Court Justice, will present a vignette - "The Touneship on the West Side of ye Ryuer Connecticut towards Windsor".

Miss Phyllis Kihn, Editor of the State Societies Bulletin, will give an illustrated lecture, "Connecticut's '49ers"

Afternoon discussion groups, "How Does Your Society Interest the Younger Members of the Community?" and "What Are the Historical Society's Responsibilities to the Community?"

Also an illustrated lecture by John L. Dollard, A.I.A., "Continuity in Tradition".

JUDSON HOUSE GROUNDS SPRING CLEAN-UP

Nine A.M. Saturday the 14th - Manning Harvey's muscle men will clean up the yards (yes, there are two now). Stan Johnson's truck will cart the debris away. Able bodied male members, and even those with barely enough vitality to open a coke bottle for the perspiring athletes, are urged to be present with some sort of a business like tool - rake, fork, saw, clipper, etc.

It's surprising how much can be done in a short time with a full crew. That's this Saturday, for sure.

PHOTO CONTEST

Miss Harriet Ryan, Membership Promotion Chairman, has done an outstanding job in organizing and publicizing the Society's Photo Contest "STRATFORD IN 1966". The contest is open to amateur, professional or "snapshooter". Judging will be based on aptness of subject matter in showing STRATFORD IN 1966, the condition of the print or slide, and its general appeal. There will be three divisions - with prizes as follows:

Black-and-white or color print - For those 14 years of age and under

FIRST PRIZE - a cash award of TEN DOLLARS

3 RUNNER-UP AWARDS - a cash award of FIVE DOLLARS each

Black-and-white or color print - For those over 14

FIRST PRIZE - a cash award of FIFTEEN DOLLARS

3 RUNNER-UP AWARDS - a cash award of FIVE DOLLARS each

Color Slide - For all ages

**FIRST PRIZE - a cash award of FIFTEEN DOLLARS**

**4 RUNNER-UP AWARDS - a cash award of FIVE DOLLARS EACH**

**For BEST IN SHOW - a cash award of TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS !!!**

To be eligible for prizes, winning entries must furnish negatives or original transparencies. Model releases, where applicable, must be furnished upon request.

Contest closes August 1st. Winners will be announced and photos shown at the Society's Fourth Annual Flea Market, Frank Scott Bunnell High School grounds, August 13, 1966. A by-product of the contest will be a "pictorial record 1966" for the Society to keep.

By the way, start setting things aside for the Society's wagon. Ours is and should be the most patronized on the lot. You would be surprised what Mabel Miller can persuade people to buy.

**GIFTS FROM FRIENDS**

It is not practical to list every single financial gift, and I may be justly criticized for mentioning this one, but somehow I wish we could give recognition to those outside the Society who value our work and quietly give support. A case at hand - The Stratford Trust Company for many years gave the Society (without solicitation) \$100 a year "no strings attached." Francis Stosse has just turned over to me a check from Bridgeport City Trust Company for \$100 representing continuation of this admirable custom.

**MEMBERSHIP**

At a recent gathering four people came up to me and asked, "How can we become members of the Stratford Historical Society?" These were young people - well at least much younger than I. It was nice to be able to inform them that dues paid on admission from now until the end of our year would be applied against next year's dues. Keep this in mind - there must be someone you know who would like to join and at a very modest cost.

**HOWARD WILCOXSON RECEPTION**

We don't often recount in a newsletter past events, however the reception for Howard Wilcoxson was such a delightful occasion and so well patronized, mention seems most appropriate. Mabel Miller, who master-minded the event, has asked that thanks be extended to all members who contributed of their time, food or finances. While the event was not fund raising - somehow there was cash left over for Mr. Sanborn to put in the Society's account. Best of all it was a memorable occasion at home in Judson House, on which we demonstrated our affection and high regard for our Historian and retiring Public Official, Howard Wilcoxson.

**NEWSLETTER MATERIAL**

I have long held an opinion that these newsletters were too long - and seldom read. When I made a serious error on a date in the last letter I was appalled to learn how many members read the letter.

It would be helpful to receive from members material they would like to see appear from time to time. Because we have already ran over what I have considered reasonable length, the note on Stratford Heritage has been omitted this month.

Literary contributions to future letters will be most welcome.

Hildreth Winton  
President

